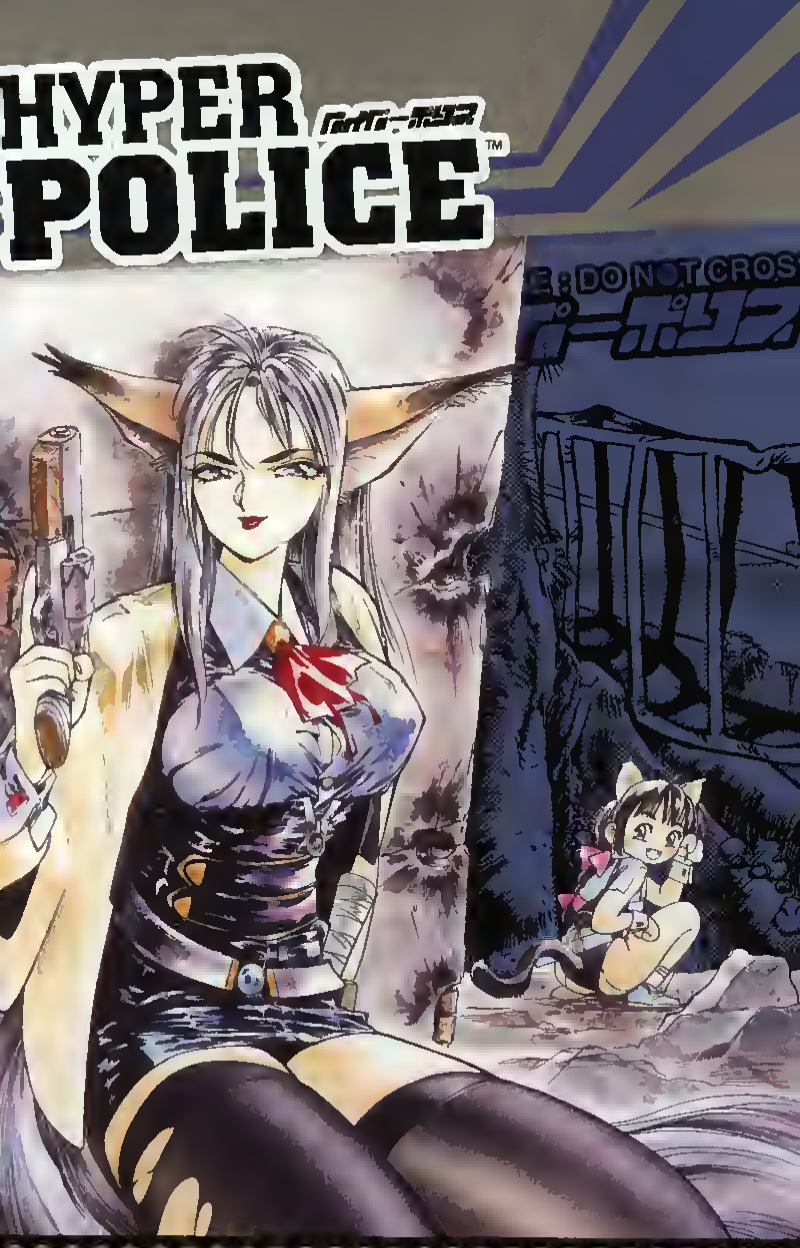
HYPER POLICE™



VOLUME 02 • STORY & ART BY MEE

HYPER POLICE™

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HYPER POLICE ハイパーポリス™

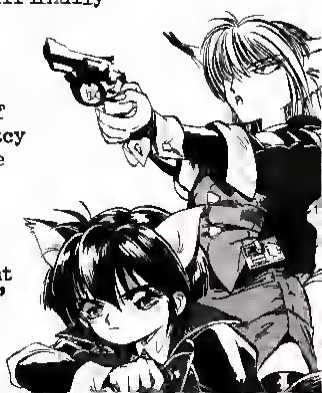
HYPER POLICE

The Story So Far...

It is the year 22 H.C. (Holy Century), and the human race has all but disappeared. The Japanese city of Shinjuku has become a haven for "monsters"—intelligent creatures that possess human-like anatomy with distinctly animal features. While most monsters are benevolent, all possess the ability to cause destruction, due largely to an internal struggle that is both constant and unwavering. Their evolved minds recognize the necessity for order and respect the sanctity of life, but the animal inside each of them is never too far beneath the surface...

Natsuki Sasahara is one such monster. A rookie at Police Company, a private police organization, she makes her living as a bounty hunter. She was scouted for the position by Batanen Fujioka, a werewolf who harbors a secret attraction for the young cat girl. Cool under pressure and stunningly efficient, Batanen is a seasoned veteran of the hunter trade. With his partner Tomy, Batanen always tops the list of monthly arrests. Recently, Police Company welcomed a new officer to their ranks. Sakura is part nine-tailed fox—or rather she WOULD be if her ninth tail would finish growing in. Partnered with Natsuki, Sakura has formed an uneasy friendship with the young cat girl. Uneasy in that, while Sakura has come to depend on Natsuki as a partner and roommate, she also hides a vicious desire to eat her. It is her hope that the strong magical essence Natsuki possesses will finally allow Sakura's stumpy tail to grow.

All four of our fearless hunters have learned to deal with budget cutbacks and faulty, obsolete equipment. However, none of them were prepared for the recent bankruptcy of Police Company. With the president of the company fleeing Shinjuku for foreign shores, Natsuki, Sakura, Batanen and Tomy now live the sad existence of a freelancer. Living contract by contract, they struggle to stay financially afloat in a business that gives new meaning to the term "dog eat dog."



CHARACTERS

Natsuki

A rookie bounty hunter with magical powers and wicked sword skills. Her magic manifests itself as electrical energy capable of frying anything in sight, and is further amplified through the assistance of her two pet parasites: Raijin and Fujin.

Sakura

Natsuki's partner and a fellow rookie, Sakura is a nine-tailed fox whose ninth tail has yet to grow in. To trigger its growth, Sakura plans to eat the highly magical Natsuki...as soon as she can figure out how.

Batanen

A clean shot and a brutal brawler, Batanen is one of the best hunters in the biz. He was Police Company's pride and joy, and has been equally successful as a freelancer, largely due to his possession of something the others lack: a license.

Tomy

Resourceful, quiet and clever, Tomy prefers to keep busy behind the scenes. He's proven to be an efficient yin to Batanen's yang, often accompanying the great hunter on some of his greatest hunts.

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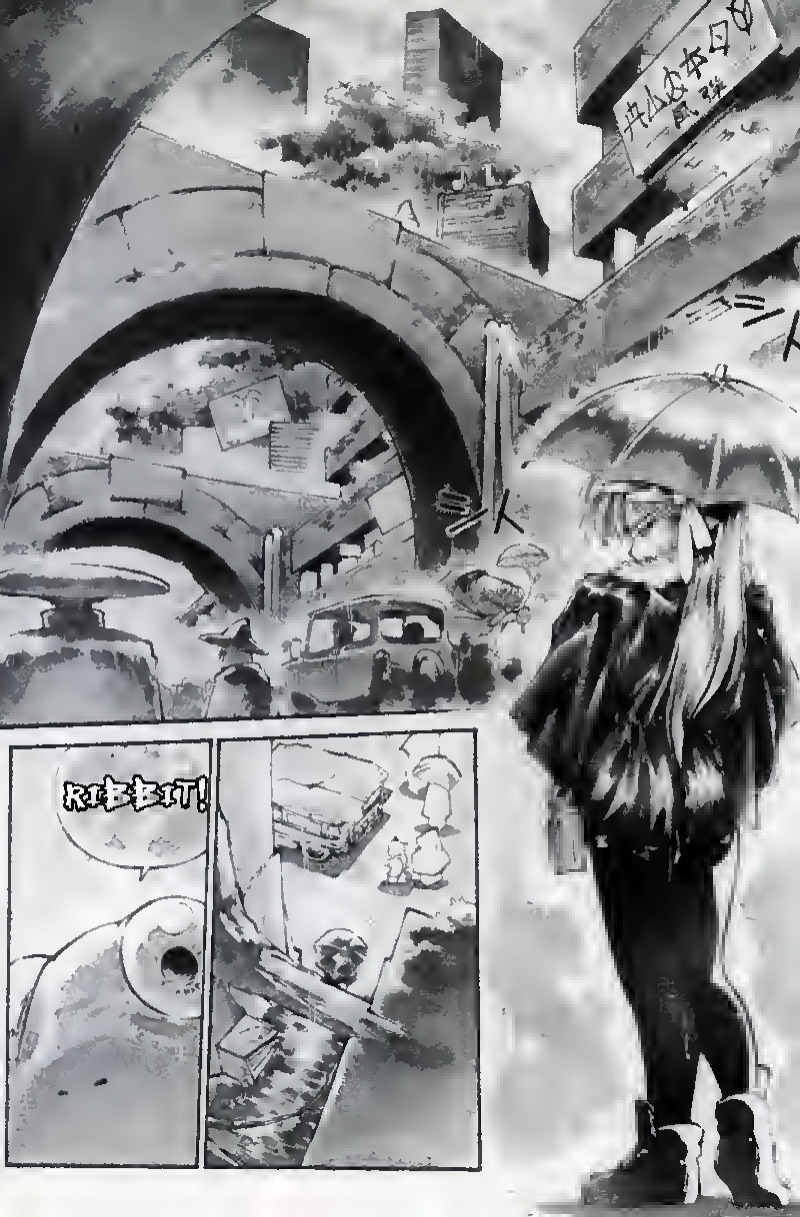
HYPER POLICE

MEE

Report #8
Welfare Cases


RIBBIT!

OH, YUCK!
ぱっ
コソコソ
HERE, FROGGY! C'MON... DON'T I LOOK YUMMY?
SORRY, KERMIT... BUT YOU KNOW YOU'RE NOT ALLOWED TO HUNT HERE.
HUNTING? ER... I'M AFRAID I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT. RIBBIT!
ピクピク

SHE WAS A DECOY! THAT'S ENTRAPMENT! I'LL SUE!
じたばた
THAT LEG STICKING OUT OF YOUR MOUTH SAYS OTHERWISE. YOU'RE UNDER ARREST.
YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO AN ATTORNEY. IF YOU CAN'T AFFORD ONE, ONE WILL BE APPOINTED TO YOU DURING QUESTIONING...
YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO REMAIN SILENT. ANYTHING YOU SAY CAN AND WILL BE HELD AGAINST YOU.
SPIT HER OUT AND LAY DOWN FLIPPERS WHERE I CAN SEE THEM
DAMMIT, NATSUKI! WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU PLAYING AT? YOU TRYING TO KILL ME?!
ぶばっ
ぶばっ
がばっ

BUT...IT'S A RULE. I HAD TO READ HIM HIS RIGHTS.
OH, GROSS! LOOK...MY TAILS ARE SLATHERED IN FROG GOO!
SCREW THE RULES! WE'RE HUNTING WITHOUT A LICENSE THESE DAYS... REMEMBER?

TWO MONTHS AGO OUR COMPANY WENT BUST. I'D WORKED THERE FOR ALMOST A YEAR.
EVERYONE TOOK IT AS WELL AS COULD BE EXPECTED...
...BUT IT SEEMS TO HAVE BEEN MORE OF A SHOCK FOR SAKURA, ESPECIALLY SINCE SHE DIDN'T GET ANY UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS.
DABRIN
THANKS FOR CALLING ME.
LOOK AT THAT VACUOUS SMILE. DOES SHE EVER TAKE ANYTHING SERIOUSLY?
WE'VE HAD A REALLY GOOD MONTH! I WONDER WHAT I SHOULD SPEND MY MONEY ON.
♡

WHAT IF SHE KNEW THAT I'M TRYING TO EAT HER ALIVE? WOULD SHE TAKE THAT SERIOUSLY?
Zz
zz
zz
がぶ?
SOMETIMES I WONDER IF SHE'S JUST PLAYING DUMB...
WHAT?!
LET'S SEE... AFTER DEDUCTING OUR PROCESSING FEE... GUILD RATES... TAXES.

THIS SUCKS! WE ONLY GOT 1/3 OF THE MARKET RATE.
YOU'RE TELLING ME! THOSE OGU SECURITY COMPANY BASTARDS! THEY KNEW WE DIDN'T HAVE LICENSES, SO THEY SCREWED US.
But how did they know we didn't have licenses?
GUESS IT DOESN'T MATTER. THEY CAN GET AWAY WITH IT. WITHOUT LICENSES, WHAT WE'RE DOING BORDERS ON ILLEGAL.
WAITRESS! A PLATE OF YAKITORI OVER HERE!
ガヤ
ガヤ

There are tons of private police like OGU.
WELL, I'M NOT DOING BUSINESS WITH *THEM* AGAIN.
WE CAN'T DEPEND ON OTHER PEOPLE OR COMPANIES. IT'S UP TO US AND THE WILL OF THE GODS, Y'KNOW? COLD HARD FATE.
I HOPE WE CAN GET A HOLD OF BATANEN...
AT LEAST HE HAS A LICENSE.
CHOP CHOP. HURRY UP AND EAT SO WE CAN GET ANOTHER JOB DONE TONIGHT.
ARE YOU SERIOUS?
WHAT DO YOU EXPECT? THE EARTH'S AXIS IS OFF KILTER.
ANYWAY, IT'S AWFULLY COLD FOR AUGUST.

HOTEL
HOW MUCH?

HEY, SAKURA...
HEY, GUY. HOW ABOUT A LITTLE FUN?

THIS AREA REALLY IS...
Pi
ARE YOU LISTENING?
YUP.
I LIKE YOU. HOW MUCH?
AAAIIEEE!

AAIEEE!

SAKURA!
YOU... YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND...
Don't worry! I'm good for the cash!
ビビ..リ
W-WAIT A MINUTE!
HMM... THERE'S NO SUSPECT ON THIS LIST WITH A METAL BODY.
OH, HERE HE IS.
YAAAAAAAAHH!
Your mine, horsy. All mine.
きゃあー
きゃあー
grab
grab
YUCK! WHAT A BEAST!
ALL RIGHT, FUGLY... IF YOU WANNA KEEP YOUR BRAINS INTACT, BE A GOOD BOY.
pow
pow
ドドドド
オーン
オーン
オーン
blam!

ファファン
THANKS FOR CATCHING HIM.
なにか!
THAT'S NOT FAIR! USING GIRLS AS BAIT! ENTRAPMENT!
LISTEN, PAL, WE APPRECIATE THE GRATITUDE, BUT NOTHING SAYS "THANKS" LIKE COLD, HARD CASH!
GOOD CITIZENS LIKE YOU ARE SUCH A HELP TO US.
I-I don't want to do this anymore
I CAUGHT HIM. RIGHT HERE! ALL ME, BABY!
ガッガッガッ!

YOU'RE RIGHT. THIS ISN'T MUCH, BUT IT SHOWS MY APPRECIATION.
THOSE TWO BOUNTY HUNTERS COULD BE TROUBLE IF THEY DECIDE TO STICK AROUND.
IF ANYTHING ELSE COMES UP, LADIES, JUST GIVE ME A JINGLE.
HEY! WAIT A MINUTE! IS THIS IT?
ONLY ONE BILL?!
THAT'S ALL THERE WAS.
HOLD ON.
WE'LL DO SOMETHING TO SEE THEY CAN'T GET IN OUR WAY.
SHOULD WE TELL THE BOSS?

I'VE GOT AN IDEA.
BOUNTY HUNTERS, YOU SAY?
IF YOU'RE BOUNTY HUNTERS, I'M SURE YOU HAVE ALL THE NECESSARY PAPERWORK AND LICENSES TO PROVE IT, HMM? OTHERWISE, THERE COULD BE SUBSTANTIAL FINES.
OH...
RIGHT! WE CAN'T LIVE ON THIS CHUMP CHANGE!
WE'RE BOUNTY HUNTERS, NOT NORMAL CITIZENS!
HUNTING WITHOUT A LICENSE... VERY SERIOUS BUSINESS INDEED.

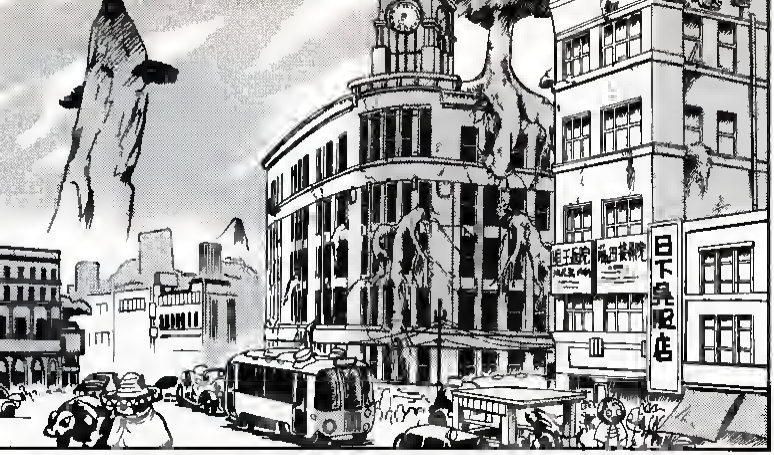
NO WAY!
AS YOU WISH. GOING HUNGRY MIGHT CHANGE YOUR MINDS. WE'LL BE WAITING.
STILL, IF IT'S LEGITIMATE WORK YOU'RE LOOKING FOR...
...WHY NOT TAKE A SECURITY JOB WITH US?
IT SEEMS LIKE THE MORE WE WORK, THE POORER WE GET.
WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO WITH THOSE EMPTY SHELLS?
CAN'T AFFORD NEW ONES. I'LL FILL THEM AND USE THEM AGAIN.

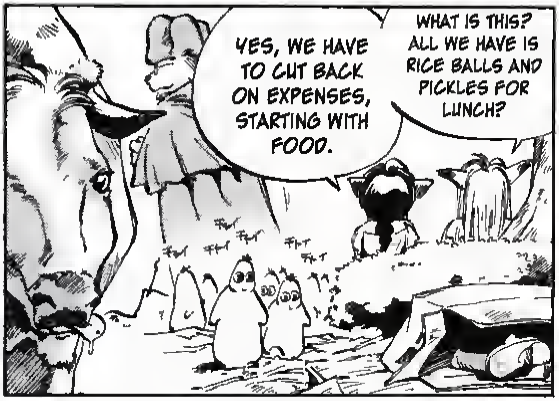
BEFORE I FELL ASLEEP LAST NIGHT, I WAS THINKING...
.....
WHAT?
WELL, I'VE BEEN THINKING ABOUT...
...WHY YOU LOOK SO BEAT UP EVERY MORNING.
NO REASON.
HMPH.

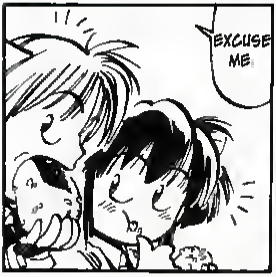
...BUT WE'RE BUSTING OUR HUMP MORE THAN WE EVER DID AT THE COMPANY. AND WE'RE BROKE!
YOU SAID IT WOULD BE EASIER ONCE WE WENT FREELANCE...
I... I SUPPOSE
THAT'S WHAT YOU THOUGHT ABOUT BEFORE YOU WENT TO SLEEP?
THAT'S A BAD COMPANY. YOU'D REGRET IT.
WHAT ARE YOU SAYING? YOU'RE NOT CONSIDERING WORKING FOR THAT SECURITY COMPANY, ARE YOU?
BUT I WAS THINKING... YOU'RE A FOX, RIGHT? SO WHAT IF YOU TRANSFORM YOURSELF TO LOOK LIKE BATANEN WHEN WE GO TO COLLECT MONEY?
Gulp!
I'D RATHER WAIT TABLES IN A COFFEE SHOP THAN WORK FOR THEM.
NO! I MEAN... THAT'S NOT IT!

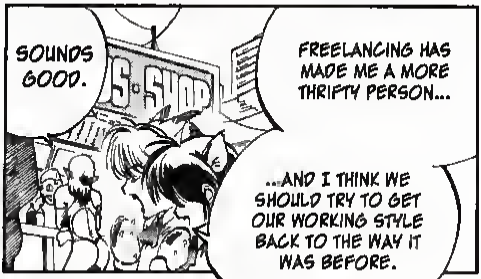
Sniff sniff...
I MEAN, HE'S GOT A LICENSE, AND IF YOU DID THAT THEN WE'D ONLY HAVE TO PAY THE FEE...
I don't think Bakanen would mind
WHAT'S THE MATTER? DID I SAY SOMETHING WRONG?
.....
I-I CAN'T TRANSFORM MYSELF, ALL RIGHT?!

OH, I'M SORRY. I DIDN'T MEAN ANYTHING...
ヒク ヒク
EVEN THOUGH I'M A FOX.
HAPPY NOW?
IF YOU REALLY FELT SORRY FOR ME, YOU'D LET ME EAT YOUR LIVER!
I GUESS I'M NOT THE ONLY ONE WITH ISSUES.




WHAT IS THIS? ALL WE HAVE IS RICE BALLS AND PICKLES FOR LUNCH?
YES, WE HAVE TO CUT BACK ON EXPENSES, STARTING WITH FOOD.


EXCUSE ME.


SOUNDS GOOD.
FREELANCING HAS MADE ME A MORE THRIFTY PERSON...
...AND I THINK WE SHOULD TRY TO GET OUR WORKING STYLE BACK TO THE WAY IT WAS BEFORE.

HOW SWEET! I'M REALLY TOUCHED!
A BELL? IF ONLY IT WAS GOLD-PLATED...
WHAT? A PRESENT?
EXCUSE ME... PLEASE TAKE THIS...
I WONDER HOW MUCH I COULD PAWN THIS FOR...
ding
WELL? HOW DO I LOOK?

...BUT I GUESS SOME OF THEM DO.
I NEVER THOUGHT THE CITIZENS CARED FOR US VERY MUCH...

THEY'RE FOR LUCK! SEE YOU LATER, BOUNTY HUNTER GIRLS! ♡
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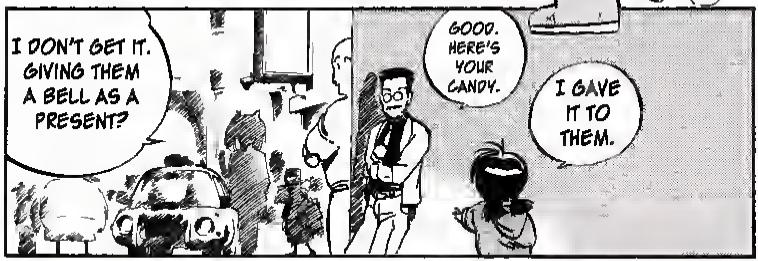
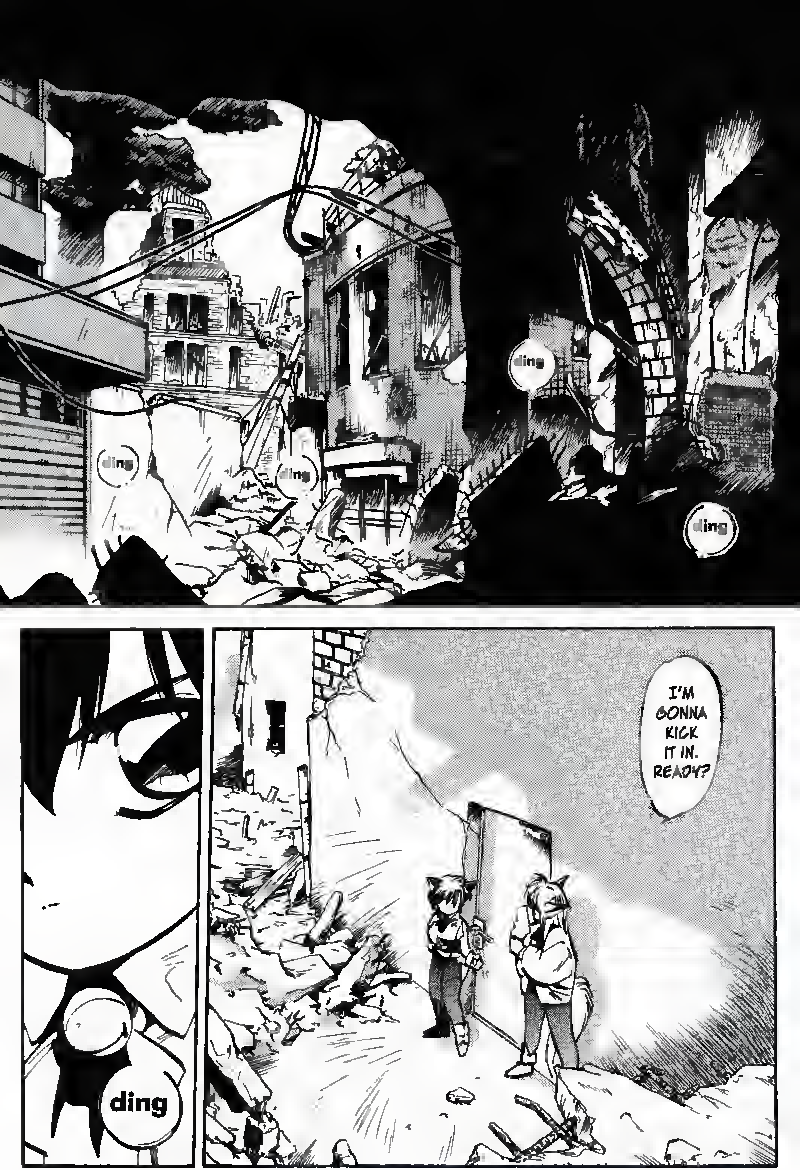

I DON'T GET IT. GIVING THEM A BELL AS A PRESENT?
GOOD. HERE'S YOUR CANDY.
I GAVE IT TO THEM.

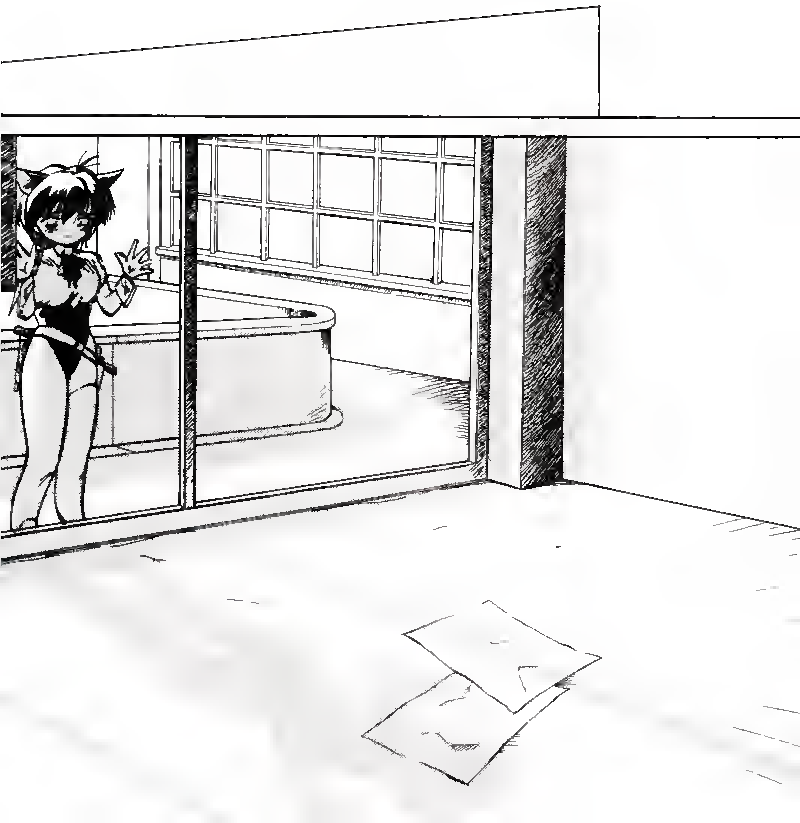
ONCE WE TELL EVERYBODY ABOUT THE BELLS AROUND THEIR NECKS, THE NUMBER OF CRIMINALS THEY CATCH SHOULD PLUMMET.
HAVEN'T YOU HEARD THE STORY ABOUT THE MOUSE THAT GIVES THE CAT A COLLAR WITH A BELL?


ding
ding
ding
ding
ding
I'M GONNA KICK IT IN. READY?

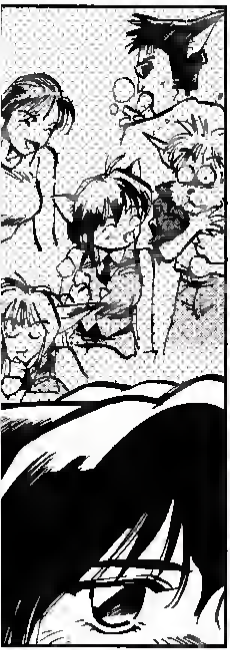
FREEZE!
bang!
HUH?
WHAT HAPPENED?
THERE'S NOBODY HERE.
ding

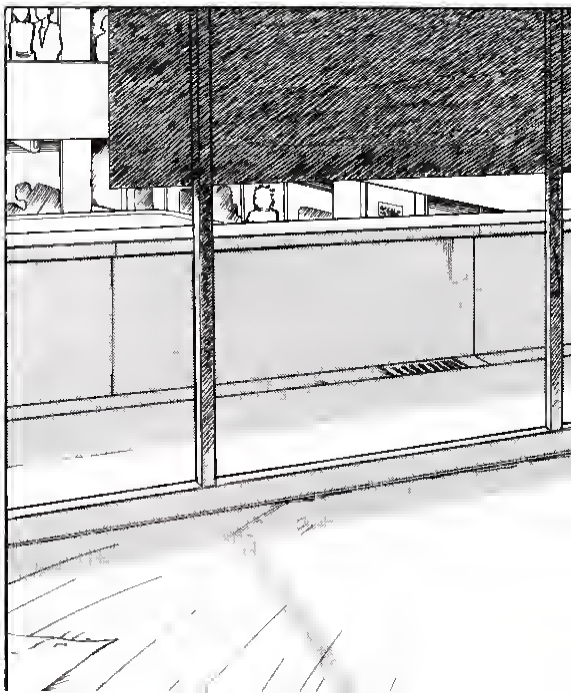
WELL, IT HAPPENS, I SUPPOSE.
BUT FOR TWO STRAIGHT WEEKS?
とぼ" とぼ"
Sigh
WE DIDN'T CATCH ANYTHING TODAY EITHER.
UM... WHY DON'T WE GO TO THE COFFEE HOUSE TOMORROW?
UGH! I CAN'T EAT THAT ROTTEN BEAN CRAP!
YOU WANT SOME NATTO?
Shut up!!
It would help your y'know problem
ALL WE'VE BEEN EATING IS FISH, PICKLES AND PLUMS.
I'm bound up like you wouldn't believe!

for tenant



Looking





ding-a-ling
MY STOMACH IS GROWLING SO MUCH! IT'S KINDA EMBARRASSING
I WAS JUST THINKING OF WHEN WE ATE ROCK-ROASTED SWEET POTATOES ..
Grrr!
Growl!
Rumble!
WE CAN WAIT FOR TOMY AND BORROW MONEY FROM HIM...
...OR WE CAN WASH DISHES. I DON'T MIND.
HEY, THEY KNOW US. THEY'LL RUN A TAB.
WE CAN PAY WHEN WE GET MONEY.
WE DON'T HAVE ANY MONEY LEFT.

ding ding
I'M STARVING! GET ME SOME FRIED RICE WITH VEGETABLES AND SUPER SIZE IT!
WELL, IF IT ISN'T NATSUKI. HOW'VE YOU BEEN?
WHAT WILL IT BE FOR YOU, NATSUKI?
I'M, UH... ON A DIET...
DO YOU HAVE LARK MILD SMOKES?
I'LL TAKE A COFFEE.
EVERYBODY IS HERE AT SHINJUKU.
HEY, DID YOU HEAR THAT SMITH CHANGED JOBS?
I'LL HAVE THE SPAGHETTI MARINARA, MINUS THE MARINARA.
THERE'S A BIG SALE AT THAT SHOP, ICHITORA, UNDERNEATH THE TRAIN TRACKS.

EVERYBODY HAS GONE THEIR SEPARATE WAYS... BUT EVEN WITHOUT THE COMPANY WE'RE STILL FRIENDS.
NOW'S OUR CHANCE TO STORE UP A FULL BELLY OF FOOD.
WANNA BUY THIS ANTI-TANK RIFLE?
HEY, YOU! NO SOLICITING HERE! TAKE YOUR WEAPONS OUTSIDE!
HOW ABOUT A DATE, SWEET THANG?
UH... DO YOU KNOW IF BATANEN OR MS. KONDO EVER COME AROUND HERE ANYMORE?
IT SEEMS LIKE EVERY DAY THINGS GET TOUGHER...BUT FOR NOW, IN THE COMPANY OF MY FRIENDS, I CAN ALMOST FORGET WHAT THE PAST FEW WEEKS HAVE BEEN LIKE.
BUT I HEARD BATANEN GOT HIS LEG BLOWN OFF TWO DAYS AGO THANKS TO TOMY.
I DON'T KNOW ABOUT KONDO.

ring ding
OH NO! BATANEN...
OH!
YOUR KNEECAPS HAVE A DATE WITH MY NIGHTSTICK IF HE'S LIMPING THE NEXT TIME I SEE HIM!
TOMY, WHAT DID YOU DO TO BATANEN?!

ゆっくりしていってね！

TAKE IT EASY!

2009

BA-BATANEN...
ぽり ぽり
OH...
HEY.
tap
ARE YOU ALL RIGHT, THEN? ♡
ぎゅっ
rrrrumble
ぎゅるるる

Report #9
Busted

ding
ding
ding
ding
WE'RE STILL HUNTING WITHOUT A LICENSE, AND WE'RE BARELY MAKING ENOUGH TO EAT.
HEY!
...
DO YOU HAVE ANY SPARE AMMO?
YOU'RE NOT GONNA USE IT ANYWAY. GIVE 'EM OVER.
NO WAY! THE RULE IS YOU BUY YOUR OWN STUFF.
THEY SAY THAT WHEN YOU'RE POOR, YOU CAN BECOME BITTER. I'M STARTING TO SEE THE WISDOM IN THAT.
CHEAP-SKATE!
I GUESS I HAVE NO CHOICE. I'LL USE LESS AMMO AND MAKE NATSUKI DO MORE OF THE WORK.
ALL RIGHT... LET'S DO IT!

FREEZE!
DAMN!
WE MISSED 'EM AGAIN!
THIS IS THE 12TH TIME THIS HAS HAPPENED!
I WAS SURE THEY WERE HERE A MOMENT AGO.
ding

OH, THAT SMELLS GOOD! I FEEL LIGHTHEADED.
YOU CAN'T JUST TAKE OTHER PEOPLE'S--
DON'T BE SUCH A GOODY-GOODY. IT'S THE BAD GUY'S FOOD, ANYWAY!
BUT...
THEY PROBABLY EITHER STOLE THIS OR BOUGHT IT WITH STOLEN CASH. TURNABOUT'S FAIR PLAY
grrrow!
OOOH...
NO FAIR! GIVE ME SOME, TOO.
NO, I WOULDN'T WANT YOU TO VIOLATE YOUR PRECIOUS PRINCIPLES!
AT LEAST GIVE ME A BITE!
OOPS!
AND CORRUPT YOUR VIRTUE? NO WAY!

NO, IT WAS AN ACCIDENT!
YOU DID THAT ON PURPOSE!
Grrrr!
fwip
fwip
fwip
ALL RIGHT. TAKE THEM AWAY.
IT'S SO STRANGE.
WE BUSTED OUR ASS TO MAKE THAT COLLAR, SO DON'T LET THEM ESCAPE.

Maybe you're not getting enough calcium. Have you been eating your dried fish and milk?
WE'RE THE ONLY HUNTERS THAT ARE ON SUCH A BIG LOSING STREAK!
They finally caught that gang of robbers!
SOMETHING'S NOT RIGHT! THERE ARE TONS OF CRIMINALS OUT THERE!
WELL, LOSING YOUR TEMPER OVER IT ISN'T GOING TO HELP.
I CAN'T GET MY MIND OFF THE STEW FROM LAST NIGHT.
I DON'T WANT DRIED FISH. WHAT I WANT IS FRESH, BLOODY MEAT!
THAT WOULD'VE BEEN MY FIRST REAL MEAL IN AGES...
DO YOU WANT SOME OF THIS?
IF SOMEONE HADN'T DUMPED IT ALL OVER THE DIRTY FLOOR.
C-CAT... CAT...

CAT FOOD?! YOU EXPECT ME TO EAT FRIGGIN' CAT FOOD?!
ゼィ
ゼィー
huff!
huff!
huff!
I KNOW SHE ISN'T GETTING ENOUGH CALCIUM.
YOU ACTUALLY THINK CAT FOOD TASTES GOOD?
WELL...IT COULD USE A LITTLE SALT...
YOU'RE HALF HUMAN, RIGHT?
Grrrrr!
THERE WAS A SALE ON CAT FOOD, SO I BOUGHT HALF A YEAR'S WORTH.
HEY, DON'T YELL AT ME! IT'S NOT LIKE I KNEW THAT OUR COMPANY WOULD GO BROKE.
AND IF YOU HAVE ENOUGH MONEY FOR CAT FOOD, WHY CAN'T YOU BUY REAL FOOD FOR US?
UGH! DON'T YOU HAVE ANY DAMN DIGNITY?!

Sakura? Why are you looking at me like that?
I FORGOT...THERE IS A SUCCULENT PIECE OF JUICY, FRESH MEAT RIGHT IN FRONT OF MY FACE.
!
がぶっ
AAIIEE!
Geez! I'm all scratched up.
I WANT MEAT OOZING WITH GREASE...AND A BAKED POTATO ON THE SIDE...
ぷよ
ぷよ
ぽ!!

I KNOW THAT YOUR COMPANY WENT BUST AND THAT YOU'RE OPERATING WITHOUT A LICENSE.
fwip
vip
I HEARD THAT.
IT SEEMS THERE ARE A LOT OF YOU FREELANCERS NOW.
BUT REMEMBER THIS...
IF YOU TRY TO WORK ON MY TURF...
...I'LL TAKE YOU DOWN. HARD.

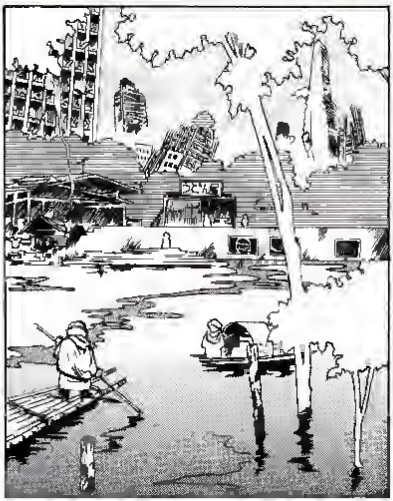
AH HA HA HA HA HA!
Ouch, Hot!
SAKURA, CALM DOWN.
MAKE SURE YOU STAY OFF MY BLACKLIST.
NATSUKI, CALL BATANEN.
SO, YOU DECIDED TO WORK WITH HIM?
NOT A CHANCE.

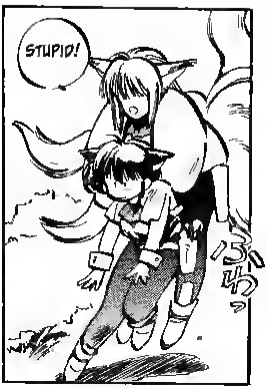
WILL YOU TAKE THIS FOR US?
OH, I COMPLETELY FORGOT ABOUT THAT.
I'LL GIVE YOU A DISCOUNT...
IT'S PRETTY BEAT UP.
But I can tell what it is, at least
I caught it! Compliment me!
カミュ
カミュ
WHAT'S THAT?
skra

What are you doing there?
shreee
IT'S A ROBOT CONTROLLED BY THIS WOMAN, POE. IT'S SAID THAT SHE CONTROLS WATER SPIRITS.
I thought the 8th Division was only for monkeys.
I THINK IT'S FROM THE POLICE DEPARTMENT'S 8TH DIVISION. I FORGET WHAT IT'S CALLED.
Identity confirmed
dee
keeka
MY NAME IS BATANEN FUJIOKA. I'M A BOUNTY HUNTER, REGISTRATION NUMBER A0017.
!
MAYBE IT'S MAL-FUNCTIONING.
I THOUGHT THE ROBOTS PATROLLED THE FLOODED AREA BEYOND IIDABASHI.
カシュカシュ
Sorry, sir.

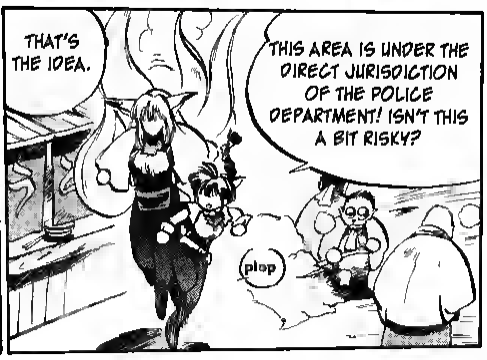
Stupid If he gets better we won't be able to find him
THOSE TWO SURE LOOK HAGGARD.
AND BATANEN... NEXT TIME WE CATCH SOMETHING, WE HOPE YOU'LL HANDLE IT FOR US.
Get well soon Batanen! 4
WE'RE WASTING TIME, NATSUKI. LET'S GET TO WORK.
YOU'RE SINGING A DIFFERENT TUNE NOW
IN THE SPRING, IN HEAT, IT WAS ALL NATSUKI, NATSUKI, NATSUKI, NATSUKI.
ARE YOU SURE IT'S OKAY TO LET THEM GO?
THERE'S NO CHOICE. I ASKED THEM TO JOIN US, BUT THEY WANT TO WORK AS A PAIR.
UH, SORRY...
YOU'VE SURE GOTTEN LIPPY LATELY.

I FEEL SO SNEAKY.
pop

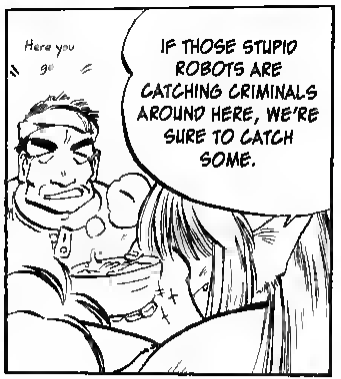



STUPID!

THINK ABOUT IT. THE AREAS AROUND PORTS AND AIRPORTS ARE HOTBEDS OF CRIME
I'll have kitsune udon. And super size it.


THAT'S THE IDEA.
THIS AREA IS UNDER THE DIRECT JURISDICTION OF THE POLICE DEPARTMENT! ISN'T THIS A BIT RISKY?
plop

SOMEHOW, I DON'T THINK IT'LL BE THAT EASY.
I'll also have a tofu skin covered rice ball!
BUT FIRST, WE FILL OUR STOMACHS.


Here you go.
IF THOSE STUPID ROBOTS ARE CATCHING CRIMINALS AROUND HERE, WE'RE SURE TO CATCH SOME.

I WONDER IF THEY BOUGHT THOSE KIDS? OR POACHED THEM?
SEE? WE DIDN'T EVEN HAVE TO WAIT THAT LONG!

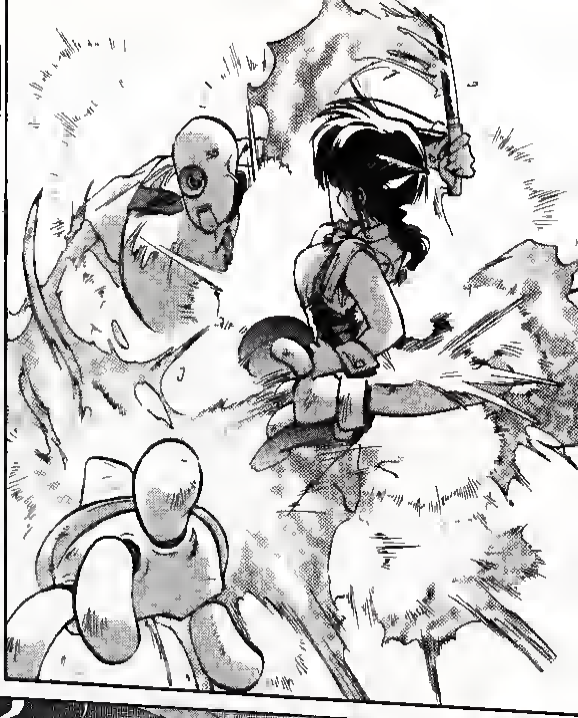
LET'S GO!

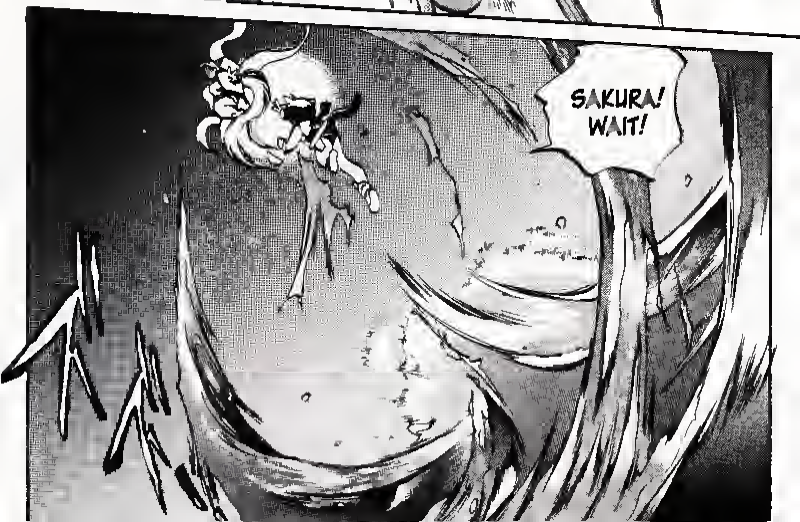
I WONDER IF THEY WANT THOSE KIDS FOR FOOD, OR FOR TOYS
POOR LITTLE GUYS!

THESE SLEAZEBALLS SHOULD FETCH A PRETTY PENNY.
LOOK HOW MANY! WE HIT THE JACKPOT!
YOU'RE SAFE NOW.
DON'T CRY.
ヒーン
ぴぇーん
ぴぇーん
ドッ
ドッ
EEEEEE!
AARGH!
THIS IS THE POLICE!
DON'T MOVE!
!
ビクッ

WE'RE IN TROUBLE!
GET THEM!
AAIIEE!

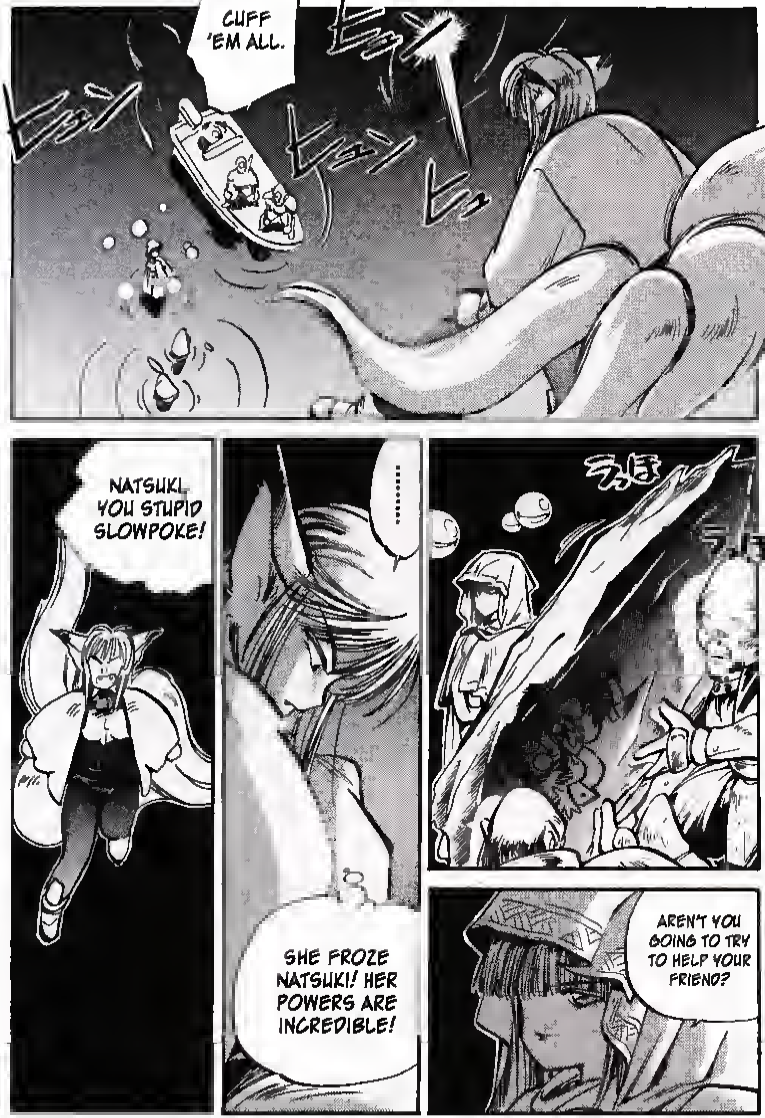
SPIRITS OF WATER...
I CALL UPON YOU NOW. HEED MY COMMAND.




SAKURA! WAIT!

ひっ
ヤバ

ひゅ
ぴたぴた

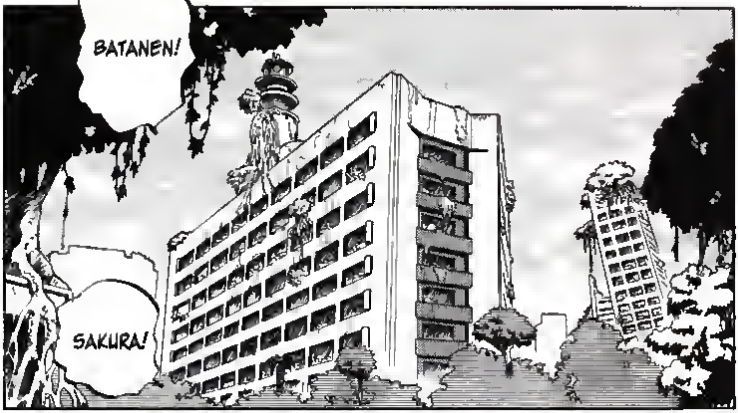

CUFF 'EM ALL.
NATSUKI, YOU STUPID SLOWPOKE!
.....
SHE FROZE NATSUKI! HER POWERS ARE INCREDIBLE!
AREN'T YOU GOING TO TRY TO HELP YOUR FRIEND?

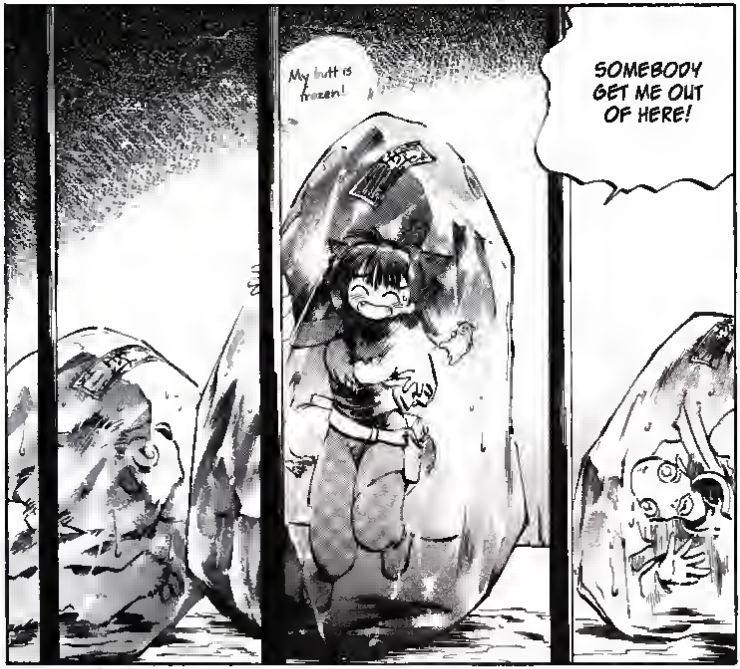
"THAT'S CRUEL..." WAS THE LAST THING YATSUKI THOUGHT AS HER CONSCIOUSNESS FADED AWAY.
BOOK 'EM.
I'M OUTTA HERE.

ゆっくりしていってね！

TAKE IT EASY!

2009


BATANEN!
SAKURA!


My butt is frozen!
SOMEBODY GET ME OUT OF HERE!

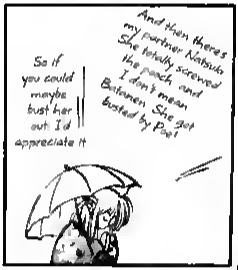
Report #10

Frozen Assets

A-I-I EEEE!
ゴロゴロ
ゴゴゴ
ガラ
ガラ
ガラ
AS A LOW PRESSURE FRONT CONTINUES TO APPROACH JAPAN FROM THE EAST, THE COAST'S HIGH PRESSURE SYSTEM WILL APPEAR, MAKING FOR UNSTABLE WEATHER WITH RAIN AND LIGHTNING TODAY.
ぐー
おおおー
……

THEY DRAG A NEW PERSON INTO THE BACK EVERY HOUR AND DO SOMETHING HORRIBLE TO THEM!
UH, EXCUSE ME...
THAT'S THE THIRD PRISONER THEY'VE PUNISHED THIS MORNING!
I WONDER HOW PEOPLE THAT BREAK THE LAW ARE PUNISHED?
THIS IS SO SCARY...
I'VE NEVER THOUGHT ABOUT WHAT HAPPENS AFTER SOMEONE GETS ARRESTED.
PRISONERS ARE PROHIBITED FROM SPEAKING.
I-I THINK I'M GONNA BE SICK!

UM . GOD? ER ..I KNOW I HAVEN'T TALKED TO YOU IN A WHILE...
HERE IT IS.
ピンポーン


So if you could maybe bust her out I'd appreciate it
And then there's my partner Natsuki She totally screwed the pooch, and I don't mean Bateman. She got busted by Poe!

BUSINESS HASN'T BEEN GOING SO WELL LATELY, AND I WAS WONDERING IF IN YOUR DIVINE WISDOM YOU MIGHT BE ABLE TO HELP ME OUT.
...BUT I AM REALLY IN A FIX THIS TIME
AND I STILL ONLY HAVE EIGHT AND A FIFTH TAILS. I STILL WANT TO BECOME A NINE-TAILED FOX. IT'D BE KEEN IF YOU COULD EXPEDITE THAT ONE, TOO.

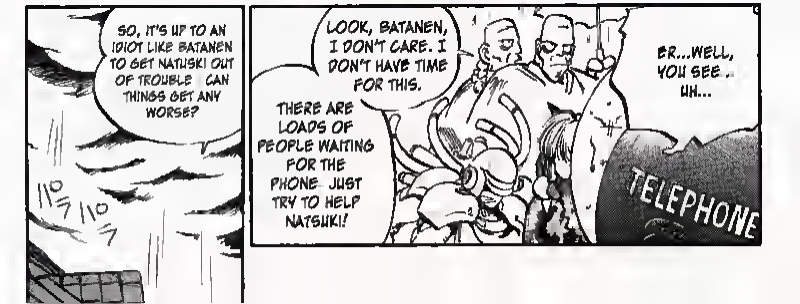
OH...AND THAT LITTLE HUMAN BITCH THAT BUSTED HER? WELL, LET'S JUST SAY...
...IF YOU WERE TO GIVE HER AN OLD-TESTAMENT, WRATH O' GOD ASS-WHUPPIN', IT'D BE OUR LITTLE SECRET AMEN!

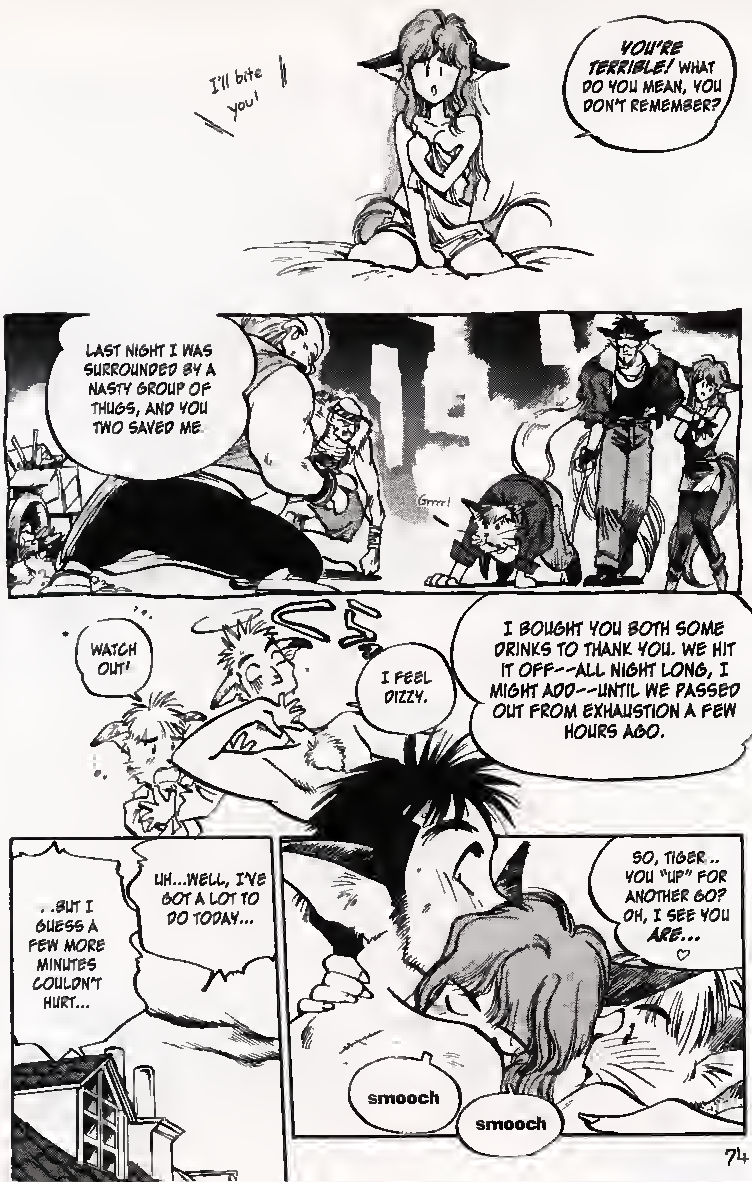
ring ring
ring ring
ring ring
BLEH. I GOTTA QUIT DRINKIN'.
URG. BATANEN, PICK UP THE PHONE.
ring ring
I HAVE A HEADACHE. MAYBE I DRANK TOO MUCH.
PICK UP THE PHONE!
ring ring

WHOSE IS THIS? YOU DIDN'T GET DRUNK AND STEAL SOMEBODY'S BRA, DID YOU?
BATANEN, NATSUKI IS IN TROUBLE!
モソモソ
HUH? WHERE'D THIS BRA COME FROM?
I'VE BEEN CALLING YOU SINCE YESTERDAY.
FINALLY, I GOT YOU!
BATANEN, IT'S SAKURA.
WHAT? NATSUKI GOT ARRESTED?
Oooh - do it again, Batanen

!!
DID YOU BRING A GIRL HOME?
I'M COLD.
WHAT WAS THAT? SOUNDED LIKE A GIRL.
青龍
ぴとっ

THAT WAS TOMY, HUH? AND JUST EXACTLY WHAT DOES HE WANT YOU TO "DO AGAIN"?
I knew it
UH...THAT'S JUST TOMY! HIS VOICE IS ALL WEIRD IN THE MORNING...
N-NO, WHY WOULD YOU THINK THAT? HA HA!


SO, IT'S UP TO AN IDIOT LIKE BATANEN TO GET NATSUKI OUT OF TROUBLE. CAN THINGS GET ANY WORSE?
LOOK, BATANEN, I DON'T CARE. I DON'T HAVE TIME FOR THIS.
THERE ARE LOADS OF PEOPLE WAITING FOR THE PHONE. JUST TRY TO HELP NATSUKI!
ER...WELL, YOU SEE... UH...
TELEPHONE

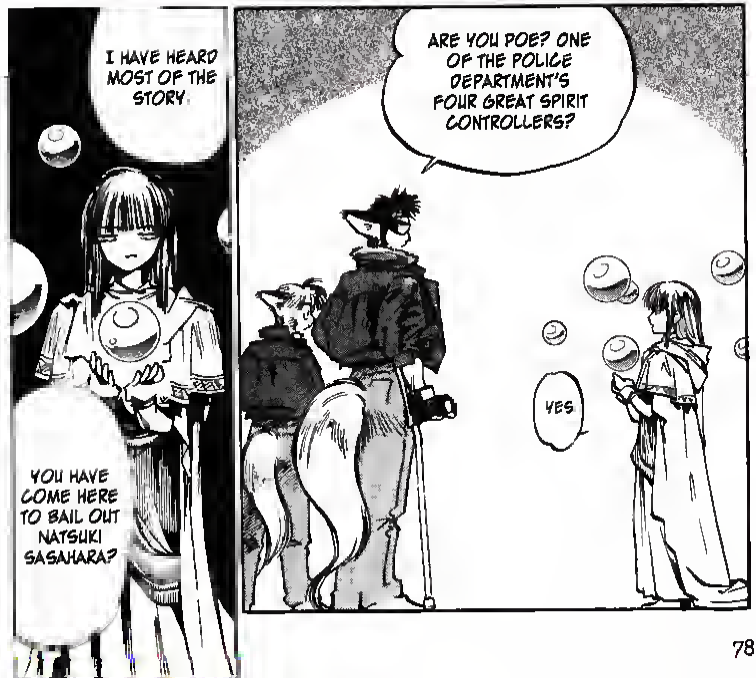

I'll bite you!
YOU'RE TERRIBLE! WHAT DO YOU MEAN, YOU DON'T REMEMBER?
LAST NIGHT I WAS SURROUNDED BY A NASTY GROUP OF THUGS, AND YOU TWO SAVED ME.
Grrrr!
I BOUGHT YOU BOTH SOME DRINKS TO THANK YOU. WE HIT IT OFF--ALL NIGHT LONG, I MIGHT ADD--UNTIL WE PASSED OUT FROM EXHAUSTION A FEW HOURS AGO.
I FEEL DIZZY.
WATCH OUT!
SO, TIGER .. YOU "UP" FOR ANOTHER GO? OH, I SEE YOU ARE... ♡
smooch
smooch
UH...WELL, I'VE GOT A LOT TO DO TODAY...
..BUT I GUESS A FEW MORE MINUTES COULDN'T HURT...

SAKURA!
BATANEN!
会計室
MFB
SO, IF YOU'LL JUST SIGN HERE, MS. FONNE...
WELL, YOUR PAPERWORK LOOKS IN ORDER...
fwip
fwip
fwip
fwip
NO! I'M INNOCENT! STOP!
WHAT IF I'M NEXT?
WHAT AM I GONNA DO?
PLEASE! NOT THAT! ANYTHING BUT THAT!
THEY FINALLY TOOK THE GUY FROM MY CELL.

YIIIEEE!!
snip
WHAT WAS THAT SCREAM? SINCE THIS MORNING, NOBODY TAKEN AWAY HAS BEEN BROUGHT BACK.
OH DEAR. WHERE'S YOUR FRIEND?
SO WE MEET AGAIN, LITTLE ONE. I WARNED YOU.
NOT A CHANCE!
IT'S ONLY ME. PLEASE HELP!
NOOOO
THE SECOND TIME... YOU ARE CASTRATED.
WHEN YOU VIOLATE THE LAW, THE FIRST TIME YOU ARE PUNISHED OR FINED.
OOO!
OH, YOU DON'T KNOW?
...THE FEMALE FORM WAS CALLED "THE CUTTING OF THE ROSE." EXCRUCIATINGLY PAINFUL, BY ALL ACCOUNTS.
IT'S DIFFERENT FOR MALES THAN FEMALES. BUT IN THE MIDDLE EAST...
ゴオ
CASTRATED? WHAT'S THAT?
It sure sounds scary

NOOO!
Ha ha
YOU'RE NEXT.
IT WAS ABOLISHED YEARS AGO. TOO INHUMANE. BUT THEN...
...YOU AND YOUR KIND AREN'T HUMAN, NOW ARE YOU?
OH.
FONNE, WE CAN'T HAVE YOU EXCITING THE PRISONERS.
KYAAA!
AAAH!
あはははは
SILENCE!
DON'T SCREAM.
HA HA HA!
KYAA!
HELP ME!

SORRY TO KEEP YOU WAITING.
thunk
DO YOU THINK IT WILL BE EASY TO BAIL HER OUT?
YOU TAKE YOUR COFFEE BLACK, RIGHT?
I MEAN, I HEAR THAT POE IS STUBBORN.
I KNOW. I WAS JUST HAVING A LITTLE FUN.
IS THAT GIRL'S SCENT ON ME?
FORGET ABOUT IT. NATSUKI'S SENSE OF SMELL ISN'T AS STRONG AS OURS.


I HAVE HEARD MOST OF THE STORY.
YOU HAVE COME HERE TO BAIL OUT NATSUKI SASAHARA?
ARE YOU POE? ONE OF THE POLICE DEPARTMENT'S FOUR GREAT SPIRIT CONTROLLERS?
YES

SHE WAS HUNTING WITHOUT A LICENSE. IF THERE ARE ADDITIONAL CRIMES, SHE WON'T BE ELIGIBLE FOR BAIL ANYTIME SOON.
I'M AFRAID SHE'S STILL BEING PROCESSED. AS YOU CAN SEE, WE ARE FACING A SHORTAGE OF INVESTIGATORS AND HAVEN'T BEEN ABLE TO CROSS CHECK WHETHER SHE HAS COMMITTED OTHER CRIMES OR NOT.
PLEASE GO HOME
YEAH, I KNOW.
WE HAVEN'T DONE THE PAPERWORK YET. BUT YOU COULDN'T HAVE ANY COMPLAINTS ABOUT LICENSING IF SHE WERE TO WORK UNDER ME.
SHE'S UNDERAGE, SO SHOULDN'T HER GUARDIAN BE--
I THINK SHE ALREADY REGRETS WHAT SHE DID, AND SHE'S STILL A MINOR. SO ARE YOU SURE YOU SHOULD REALLY BE DETAINING HER HERE?
FIANCE? BAT, WHAT'RE YOU...
WHAT ABOUT RELEASING HER TO HER FIANCE?
HER SURROGATE GUARDIAN IS BOB THE CAT.
WE HAVEN'T BEEN ABLE TO CONTACT HIM.

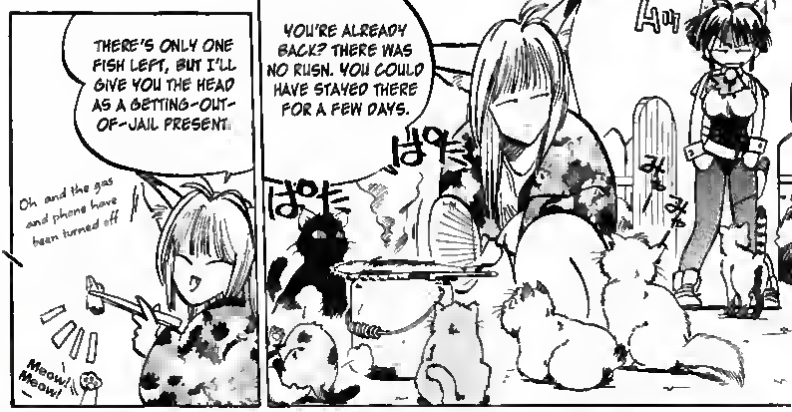
I'LL HAVE TO ESCAPE!
THAT'S MY ONLY CHANCE...
HOW CAN I GET OUT OF THIS SITUATION?
AM I NEXT? I NEED TO BE CALM, JUST STAY CALM.
OH NO! THEY'RE STILL FROZEN!
RAIJIN
FUJIN...
...SHE'D USE HER GIRLY CHARM.
IF SAKURA WERE IN THIS SITUATION...
ALL I CAN USE NOW ARE MY HANDS AND MOUTH. I NEED TO STAY CALM.

JUST MY LUCK...
sniff
sniff
HEY THERE. ♡
SORRY, PUSSYCAT, NOT INTERESTED. I'M GAY.
HEY, MR. GUARD...
Meow!
Meow!
Meow!
SASAHARA, NATSUKI. YOU'RE UP.
I'M SO SORRY!
PLEASE FORGIVE ME!
BE QUIET!
YOU DON'T SAY.
I DON'T WANT TO BE CASTRATED!
WAAAH!

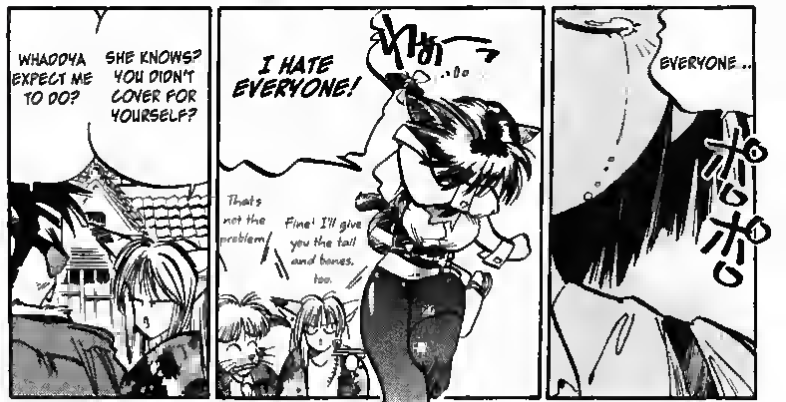
GLAD TO SEE US?
HUH?
splush
Aiiiee!
ざぱぁ
KYAAA..
HUH?
TOMY...
じたばた
じたばた
AS YOU KNOW, IF SOMEONE IS ARRESTED THREE TIMES, THEIR LICENSE WILL BE REVOKED.
THEY ONLY DO THAT TO THE MEN.
THE GIRL FROM METRO POLICE CORP THREATENED ME WITH CASTRATION!
WHAT?!
THAT MEANS CHOPPING OFF SOMEBODY'S BALLS
These little guys are still frozen

IF SHE'S WORKING FOR YOU AT THAT TIME...
...IT'S YOUR LICENSE THAT GETS REVOKED.
BATANEN!
BATANEN!
BATANEN!
LET'S HOPE YOUR CUTE LITTLE FIANCÉE DOESN'T MAKE ANY MORE MISTAKES
BATANEN!
BATANEN!
squish
A HICKEY?
AND HE SMELLS FAINTLY LIKE A WOMAN!
YOU MUST BE STARVIN', KID. LET'S GET YOU SOME FOOD.
!

WHAT'S WRONG? LET'S GO HOME.
I-I CAN'T STOP MY IMAGINATION!
I DON'T BELIEVE IT, NEN WOULD...
I WAS IN TROUBLE AND BATANEN WAS OFF PLAYING WITH WOMEN. I WAS FREEZING AND SCARED AND HE WAS PLAYING WITH WOMEN. EVEN THOUGH HE KNOWS THAT I LIKE HIM, HE WAS PLAYING WITH WOMEN. AND I'D HEARD HE LIKED ME, TOO. BATANEN BETRAYED ME!
glance
DON'T FOLLOW ME!
AREN'T YOU HUNGRY?
WHAT'S THE MATTER? WHY ARE YOU SUDDENLY SO ANGRY?
You're not fooling me by buying me a meal!


THERE'S ONLY ONE FISH LEFT, BUT I'LL GIVE YOU THE HEAD AS A GETTING-OUT-OF-JAIL PRESENT.
Oh, and the gas and phone have been turned off
Meow! Meow!
YOU'RE ALREADY BACK? THERE WAS NO RUSH. YOU COULD HAVE STAYED THERE FOR A FEW DAYS.

SAKURA, TOO...


WHADDYA EXPECT ME TO DO?
SHE KNOWS? YOU DIDN'T COVER FOR YOURSELF?
I HATE EVERYONE!
That's not the problem!
Fine! I'll give you the tail and bones, too.
EVERYONE ..

"I'M COLD."
"OH, SATANEN... DO IT AGAIN!"
ALL RIGHT, I GOT IT! YOU CAN STOP NOW.
HEY, I DIDN'T DO ANYTHING WRONG!
NO! GO AWAY!
HEY, NATSUKI! CAN I COME IN?
NATSUKI'S ROOM
I DON'T THINK FOOD'LL DO THE TRICK THIS TIME.
I'M SO DEPRESSED, BUT MY STOMACH WON'T STOP...
Grrr!
Growl!
Groooowl!
...IT WILL CHEW OFF ITS OWN FOOT...
IT'S IN HER NATURE. THEY SAY THAT WHEN A FOX IS TRAPPED...
DON'T BE UPSET ABOUT SAKURA LEAVING YOU.
THAT'S A BAD EXAMPLE! I HAVE MORE PRIDE THAN THAT!

NATSUKI'S
I FIGURED THEY WERE THE POLICE, SO NATSUKI WOULD BE ALL RIGHT! SO I RAN AWAY.
IF WE WERE BOTH ARRESTED, WE'D BOTH STILL BE THERE.
NATSUKI USED TO BE MORE LAID-BACK. THIS POVERTY THING MUST BE MAKIN' HER CRAZY.
THEY'RE SO HARD-UP FOR MONEY THAT THEIR PHONE AND GAS HAVE BEEN SHUT OFF.
NO WAY IN HELL!!
slam!
...I CAN'T LIVE HERE ANYMORE.
WELL, WITH NATSUKI THIS MAD AT ME...
CAN I STAY WITH YOU FOR AWHILE, BATANEN?
!!

YOU CAN'T TAKE BATANEN! I WON'T LET YOU!
Ohnnn
SAKURA IS GORGEOUS, SEXY...
SHE'LL SEDUCE YOU, BATANEN!
WHAT? I DON'T WANT ANYTHING LIKE BATANEN.
THE ONLY GIRL BATANEN THINKS ABOUT IS YOU, NATSUKI. HE GOES TO SLEEP EVERY NIGHT CLUTCHING THE PICTURE OF YOU SAKURA SOLD HIM!
IF YOU ARE THAT WORRIED ABOUT HIM, NATSUKI, YOU SHOULD PUT A LEASH ON HIM
LIKE ME? WHADDYA MEAN?
To me, he's still wet behind the ears
WITH A LEASH ON HIM, I COULD ALWAYS BE WITH HIM!
PUT A LEASH ON HIM. A LEASH.
I crack myself up!
Ha ha ha!

SAKURA, CAN WE WORK WITH BATANEN?
CAN WE?
CAN WE?
CAN WE?
ARE YOU OUT OF YOUR DAMN MIND? WHAT THE HELL FOR?
おお!
She's in her own world now
Maybe I shouldn't have said that?
We'll have to share the bounty!
BUT IT'LL BE A LARGER POT BECAUSE HE'S LICENSED!
WELL, IF WE WORK AS HIS ASSISTANTS, WE DON'T NEED A LICENSE!

ゆっくりしていってね！

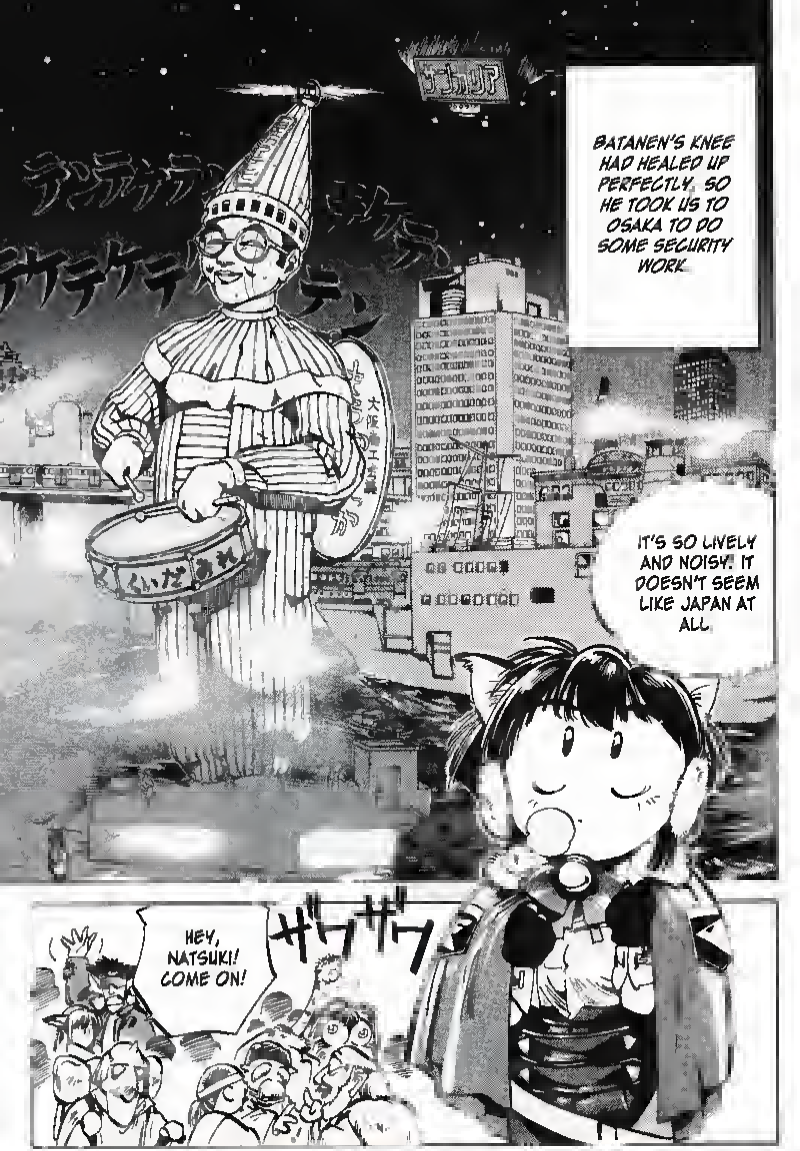
TAKE IT EASY!

2009

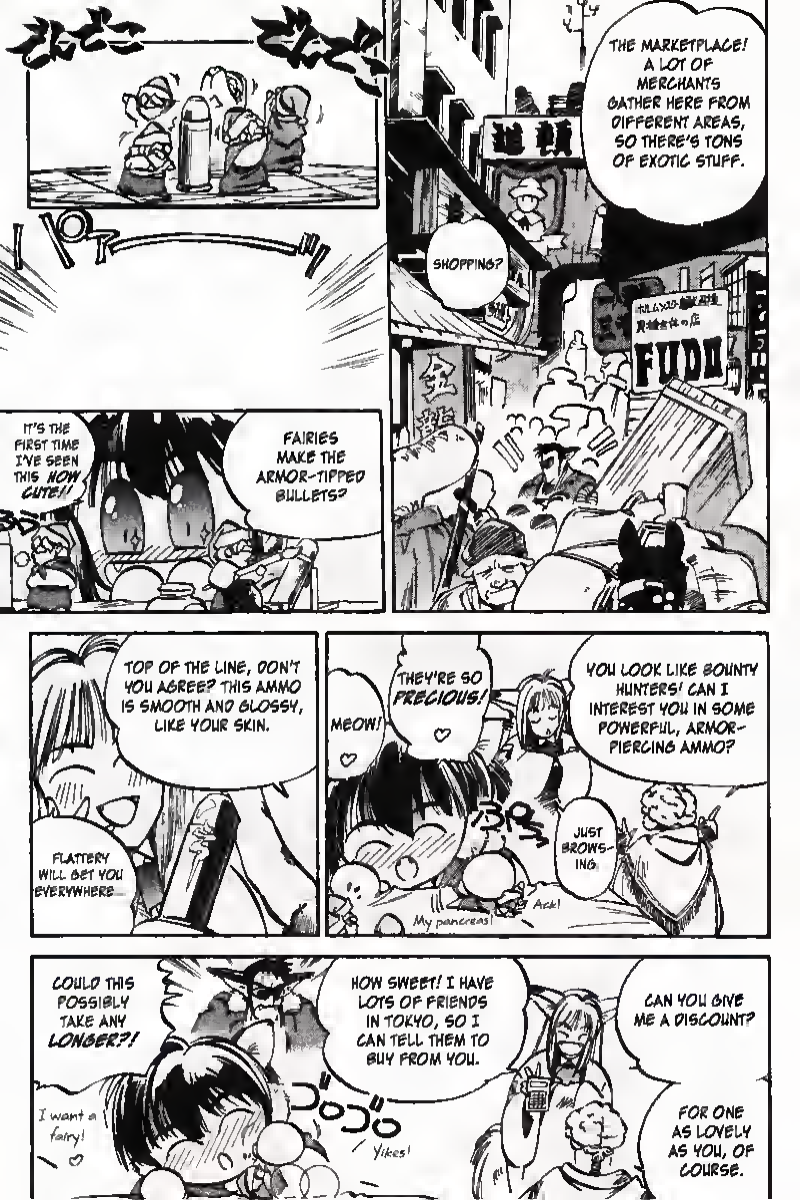
IT WON'T BE THAT MUCH LESS! WE WON'T HAVE TO PAY AGENT FEES, AND THEN I CAN ALWAYS BE WITH BATANEN.
YEAH, BUT WE'LL STILL BE SPLITTING THAT POT FOUR WAYS!
SAKURA WAS AGAINST MY IDEA TO THE END, BUT ULTIMATELY THINGS WORKED OUT LIKE I WANTED, AND WE BECAME A TEAM OF FOUR.
Are those ears for decoration?
She isn't listening
OH, I'M SO HAPPY! ♡

Report #11

For Whom the Bell Dings

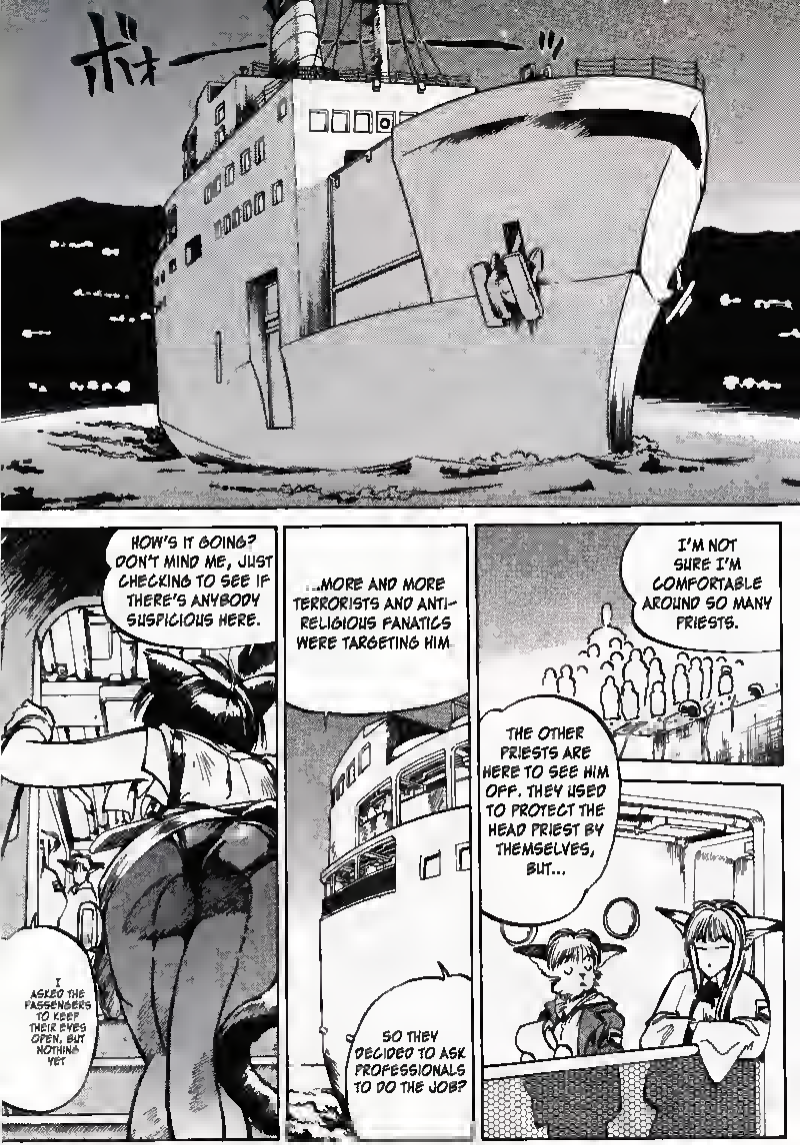

BATANEN'S KNEE HAD HEALED UP PERFECTLY, SO HE TOOK US TO OSAKA TO DO SOME SECURITY WORK.
IT'S SO LIVELY AND NOISY! IT DOESN'T SEEM LIKE JAPAN AT ALL.
HEY, NATSUKI! COME ON!
ザワザワ

DO YOU COME TO OSAKA MUCH?
THE BUILDINGS AND COLORS AND PEOPLE ARE SO UNLIKE TOKYO. IT SMELLS SO EXOTIC!
BABE, I'M A MAN OF THE WORLD
DON'T ACT LIKE YOU KNOW ALL ABOUT MY TOWN JUST BECAUSE YOU'VE BEEN HERE TWO OR THREE TIMES.
I'LL BE THE TOUR GUIDE ON THIS TRIP. FIRST STOP...THERE!
THIS IS NATSUKI'S FIRST TIME VISITING OSAKA?
WAIT FOR ME!
SHE'S SHELTERED SHE DOESN'T GET OUT MUCH.


ごんごん
ごんごん
THE MARKETPLACE! A LOT OF MERCHANTS GATHER HERE FROM DIFFERENT AREAS, SO THERE'S TONS OF EXOTIC STUFF.
SHOPPING?
FUDII
IT'S THE FIRST TIME I'VE SEEN THIS NOW CUTE!/
FAIRIES MAKE THE ARMOR-TIPPED BULLETS?
TOP OF THE LINE, DON'T YOU AGREE? THIS AMMO IS SMOOTH AND GLOSSY, LIKE YOUR SKIN.
FLATTERY WILL GET YOU EVERYWHERE.
MEOW!
THEY'RE SO PRECIOUS!
YOU LOOK LIKE BOUNTY HUNTERS! CAN I INTEREST YOU IN SOME POWERFUL, ARMOR-PIERCING AMMO?
JUST BROWSING.
My pancreas
Ack!
COULD THIS POSSIBLY TAKE ANY LONGER?!
I want a fairy!
Yikes!
HOW SWEET! I HAVE LOTS OF FRIENDS IN TOKYO, SO I CAN TELL THEM TO BUY FROM YOU.
CAN YOU GIVE ME A DISCOUNT?
FOR ONE AS LOVELY AS YOU, OF COURSE.

We'll be late for work
I wanted to use the leftover money on clothes
If we don't stop them they'll shop forever
Damn I almost got the ammo for half price
Oh people! I wanted to play with the fairies some more
HELLO, BATANEN IT'S BEEN A LONG TIME.
I HEARD YOU'VE BECOME HEAD PRIEST.
YES...BUT I HAVE SOME BIG SHOES TO FILL.
I THOUGHT THE HEAD PRIEST WOULD BE SOME DECREPIT OLD GOAT. THE FOUR OF US ARE SUPPOSED TO PROTECT THIS KID?
WELL, YOU MUST BE TIRED FROM YOUR LONG TRIP. I HOPE YOU WILL SLEEP WELL TONIGHT.
I TOLD YOU ALL ABOUT THIS AT THE COFFEE HOUSE. DO YOU EVER LISTEN TO ME?

ding
ring
OH, THAT NON-AGGRESSION TREATY THING, TO MAKE PEOPLE AND MONSTERS GET ALONG.
EVERY FOUR YEARS THERE'S A SIGNING CEREMONY IN TOKYO.
WOW. IF BATANEN KNOWS THESE GUYS, HE MUST HAVE LOTS OF CONNECTIONS.
THAT'S MY HALF-CAT PARTNER, NATSUKI
?
?
ding
WHO IS SHE?
NO, NOTHING.
IS SOMETHING WRONG WITH ME?
THEN WHAT DOES HE MEAN?
?
I GET STRANGE VIBES FROM HER.


ボォ——
!!
I'M NOT SURE I'M COMFORTABLE AROUND SO MANY PRIESTS.
THE OTHER PRIESTS ARE HERE TO SEE HIM OFF. THEY USED TO PROTECT THE HEAD PRIEST BY THEMSELVES, BUT...
...MORE AND MORE TERRORISTS AND ANTI-RELIGIOUS FANATICS WERE TARGETING HIM.
SO THEY DECIDED TO ASK PROFESSIONALS TO DO THE JOB?
HOW'S IT GOING? DON'T MIND ME, JUST CHECKING TO SEE IF THERE'S ANYBODY SUSPICIOUS HERE.
I ASKED THE PASSENGERS TO KEEP THEIR EYES OPEN, BUT NOTHING YET

YOU IDIOT! IT'S TOO SOON WE SHOULD HAVE BLOWN IT UP WHEN IT GOT FURTHER AWAY!
YES! WE BLEW IT UP!
GUNCHER BITCHIN'! HEY, LET'S WATCH THE BOAT SPLIT IN TWO AND SINK.
NO, WAIT! WHAT...
KYAAH!
OH!
HEY, YOU CAN SWIM, RIGHT? SO JUST DO IT! GET OFF!
DON'T BE STUPID! I BOUGHT 10 CARTONS OF NEW AMMO AT BARGAIN BASEMENT PRICES. YOU GO BEFORE THAT DOES!
THAT WATER'S FREEZING!
NO WAY, SAKURA!
OHHH! YOU'RE SO HEAVY!
SAKURA! WE'RE SINKING!
SAKURA, MAYBE YOU SHOULD THROW AWAY YOUR LUGGAGE.

DON'T BE SO SURE. NOT UNTIL WE SEE THE CORPSES.
THAT WON'T BE EASY! DO PIECES COUNT?
THAT GOT 'EM!
EEEEE!
GYAAH!
MARKED?
IT WILL BE EASY. ONE OF THEM IS MARKED.
OKAY. LET'S CONTACT OUR MAINLAND FRIENDS.
I GET IT! SO THIS TIME WE GO AFTER THE WARNING SIGNAL.
YOU HAVEN'T HEARD? TWO OR THREE MONTHS AGO THE NETWORK RAN INFORMATION ABOUT A BOUNTY HUNTER THAT HAD BEEN MARKED.
I DIDN'T THINK BOUNTY HUNTERS WERE SO DUMB, BUT ONE OF THEM IN THIS GROUP HAS BEEN MARKED WITH A TRANSMITTER.
BLACKLIST
BLACKLIST

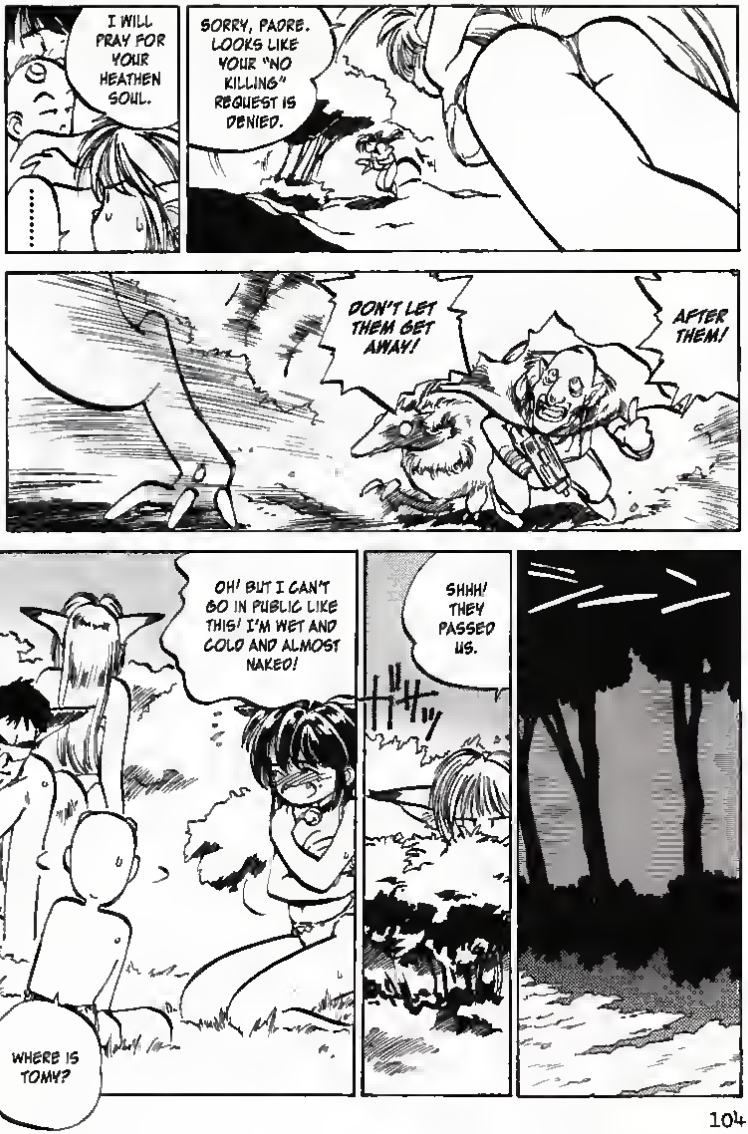
IT'S FREEZING.
IF YOU WARM YOUR BUTT UP LIKE THIS, IT'S NOT SO BAD.
I CAN'T BELIEVE THEY SANK THE WHOLE BOAT.
I CAN'T BELIEVE WE'VE GOT TWO WET, COLD BABES IN FRONT OF US, AND YOU'RE THINKING ABOUT THE BOAT!
I DON'T WANNA DO THAT. IT'S EMBARRASSING.

THERE ARE MANY WHO OPPOSE THE SIGNING OF THE TREATY.
MANY DO NOT BELIEVE IT IS POSSIBLE FOR HUMANS AND MONSTERS TO EXIST TOGETHER.
WAS MY PREDECESSOR'S ATTEMPT TO BRIDGE THE GAP BETWEEN PEOPLE AND MONSTERS 24 YEARS AGO JUST A WASTE OF TIME?

I DON'T THINK IT WAS A WASTE.
I HAD HUMAN FRIENDS AT THE PRECINCT...
...AND WE GOT ALONG GREAT!
SHE'S RIGHT. IT JUST TAKES TIME.
OVERCOMING FEAR AND PREJUDICE DOESN'T HAPPEN OVERNIGHT.
I THOUGHT WE'D TAKE A BOAT ALL THE WAY TO TOKYO, BUT THAT PLAN'S BLOWN. WE'LL NEED A CAR
THAT'S RIGHT. NOW WE HAVE TO THINK OF A WAY TO GET YOU TO THE CEREMONY ON TIME.

Shh
NASTY OL' MONSTERS! OUR CLOTHES ARE STILL WET!
AAAAH!
HERE THEY ARE!
NATSUKI! SAKURA! PROTECT THE PRIEST!
YES, SIR!
TRY NOT TO KILL THEM, IF POSSIBLE!

DAMN! THESE WERE WORTH TWICE THE PRICE.. ♡
AAAAGH!
CRAP! THERE'S A DAMN ARMY OF THEM!
YEAH! KILL THEM!
KILL THEM!
THERE THEY ARE!


I WILL PRAY FOR YOUR HEATHEN SOUL.
.....
SORRY, PADRE. LOOKS LIKE YOUR "NO KILLING" REQUEST IS DENIED.
DON'T LET THEM GET AWAY!
AFTER THEM!
OH! BUT I CAN'T GO IN PUBLIC LIKE THIS! I'M WET AND COLD AND ALMOST NAKED!
WHERE IS TOMY?
SHHH! THEY PASSED US.

NATSUKI!
SAKURA!
I HEAR TOMY!
BATANEN!
tut
tut
tut
tut
BATANEN!
OH NO! I WONDER IF THEY CAUGHT HIM.
DON'T WORRY. HE'S SMARTER THAN HE LOOKS.
I FOUND THIS TRACTOR!
I GOT YOUR CLOTHES, TOO.
GOOD JOB, TOMY. EXCEPT FOR FINDING THEIR CLOTHES..
TOMY!
YOU THINK WE CAN CROSS OVER THE MOUNTAINS OF HAKONE WITH THIS TRACTOR?
I HOPE SO.

YOU SHOULDN'T KILL ANY MORE PEOPLE
WHAT ARE WE GOING TO DO?
OH SHIT! IT'S THOSE FREAKS AGAIN!

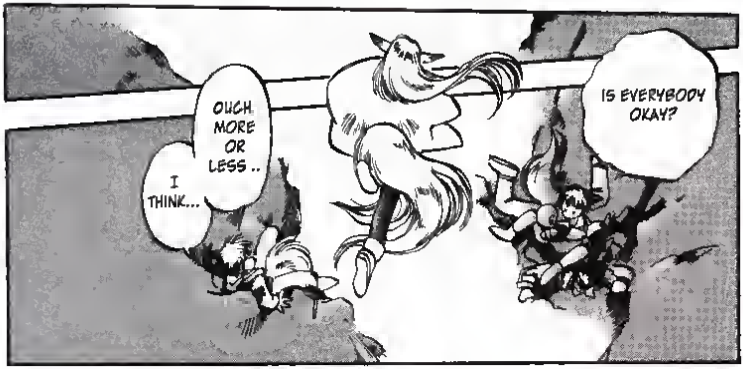
STOP!
YOU THREE SHOULD HIDE IN THE STRAW. WE'LL GET THROUGH BY POSING AS FARMERS.
IF WE TURN BACK NOW, THEY'LL GET SUSPICIOUS.
I'M NOT SURE THEY'LL GIVE US THAT LUXURY, PADRE. THEY'RE BLOCKING OUR PATH.

ドス
HMPH! HAVE YOU SEEN A GROUP OF FIVE WITH A LITTLE KID?
NO... BUT WE DON'T GET MANY VISITORS HERE.
WE ARE GOING TO WORK IN THE FIELDS, BEFORE THE HEAT OF THE DAY.
WHERE ARE YOU GOIN' IN THE MIDDLE OF THE NIGHT?
ドス
KEEP QUIET, YOU...
ドス
OH NO! SATANEN!
AHHH!
ドス
ドス
YOU DID GOOD, KID. YOU DID GOOD.
OH! THAT HURT!
MY BUTT GOT POKED!
ALL RIGHT, GET OUTTA HERE.
CAN WE GO NOW?
EEP!

ding
WHAT WAS THAT? STOP!
THEY KNOW! HIT THE GAS!
GOTCHA!
DON'T LET THEM ESCAPE! AFTER THEM!

TELL THEM THAT!
IT'S WRONG TO KILL.
YIKES!
ぼあっ!
WAHH!
WAAH!
pr a t a t a t a t a!
ガシャ
ガシャ

DID WE GET 'EM?
I THINK SO, THIS TIME.
A HUMAN FALLING FROM HERE WOULD BE FLATTER THAN A PANCAKE.
GO COLLECT THE BODIES TO BE SURE.
WAAAHH!


OUCH MORE OR LESS .. I THINK...
IS EVERYBODY OKAY?

Do I look all right?
I feel so funky
WE DISGUISED OURSELVES. IT WASN'T PRETTY.
AFTER THAT, WE WERE VERY CAREFUL.
KYAAAH!
OH, NOT AGAIN!
WAAH!
WE CHANGED OUR ROUTE AND FINALLY GOT TO YOKOHAMA...
SINCE MEETING NATSUKI, I'VE FELT SOME STRANGE VIBES.
MAY I SAY SOMETHING?
THEY TRACK US DOWN NO MATTER WHERE WE ARE.
IT'S UNCANNY!
SOMETHIN' AIN'T RIGHT...

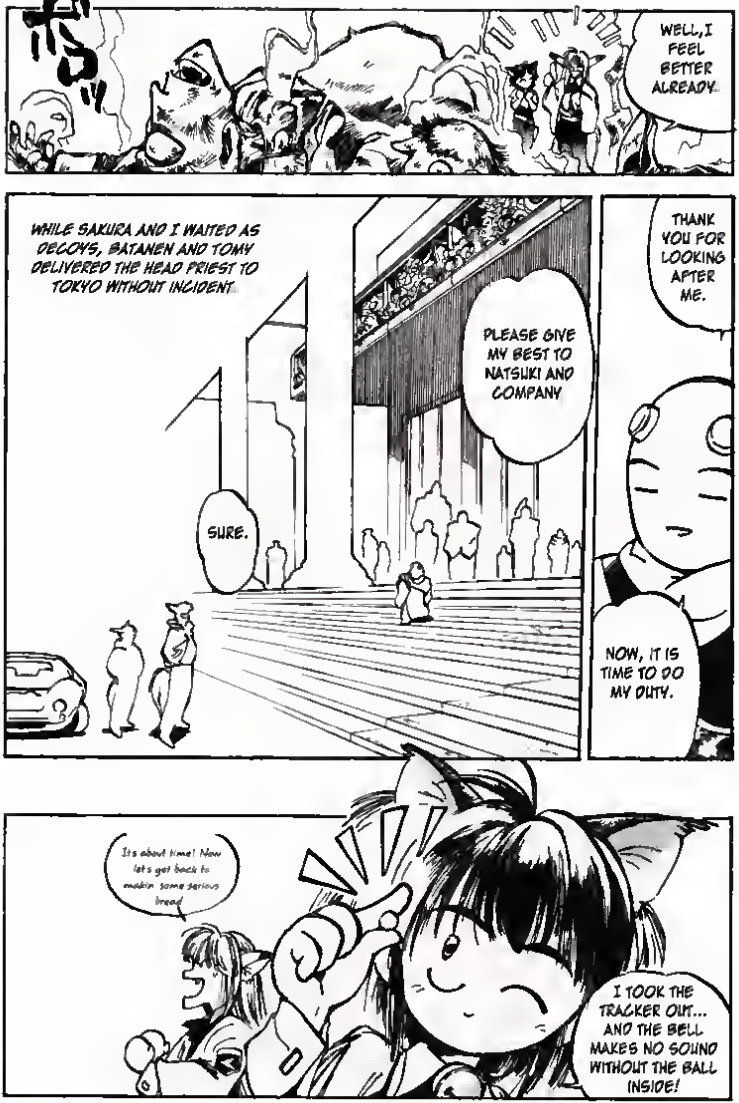
C'MON, NATSUKI! IT'S GOTTA BE SOMEWHERE!
DON'T YOU HAVE ANYTHING ELSE?
YEAH, AND IF IT'S NOT ON MY CLOTHES IT'S GONNA STAY THERE!
HEY, NO FAIR! GIMME BACK MY PANTIES!
THIS?
HEY, WHAT'RE YOU DOING, SAKURA? LEGGO!
HOLD STILL! I DON'T LIKE THIS ANY MORE THAN YOU DO!
WHAT? ME?
GOOD LUCK!
A LITTLE GIRL GAVE THIS TO ME. SHE WAS THANKING ME FOR DOING MY JOB
WHAT?
ding
THAT'S IT. I FEEL IT FROM THE BELL.

YOU CAN'T HIDE FROM US.
THIS BELL IS THE CAUSE OF ALL THE TROUBLE?
IT CAN'T BE!
IT WAS A GIFT! I CAN'T THROW IT AWAY...
.....
PAYBACK TIME, BITCHES!
HIDE? WE WERE WAITING FOR YOU.
GYAAAH!
OH, SHIT!

ゆっくりしていってね！

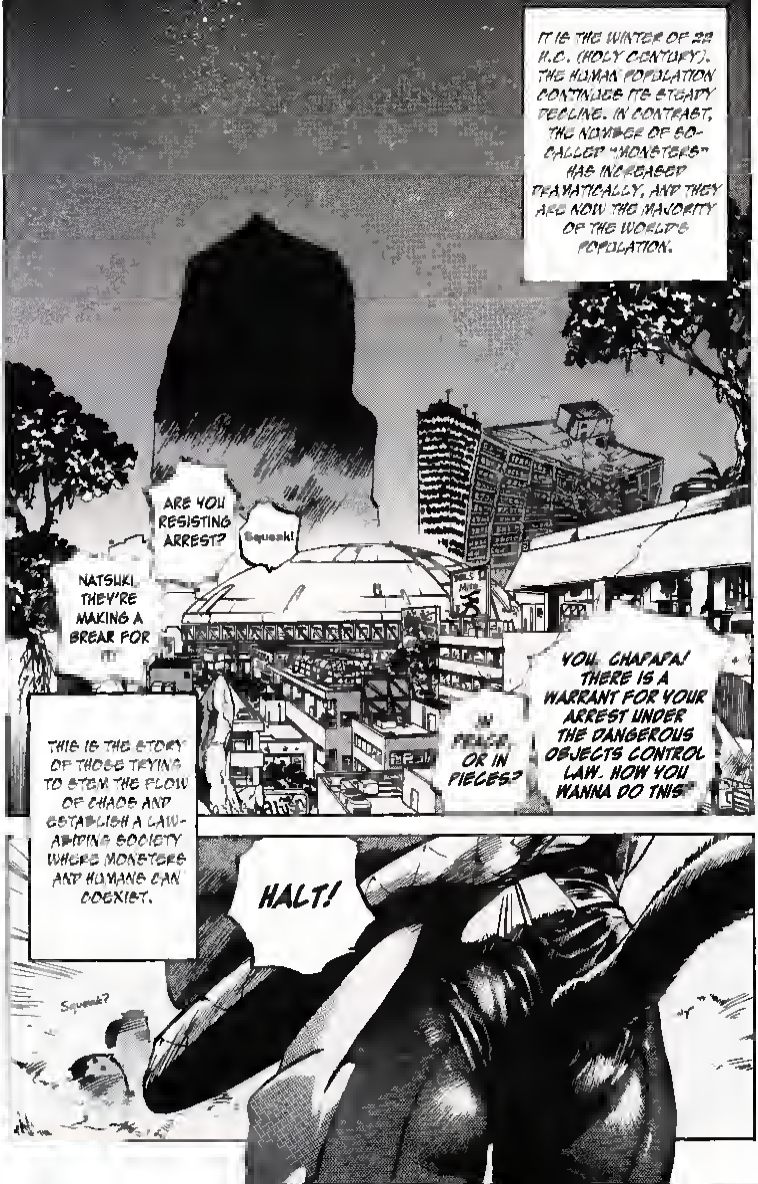
TAKE IT EASY!

2009

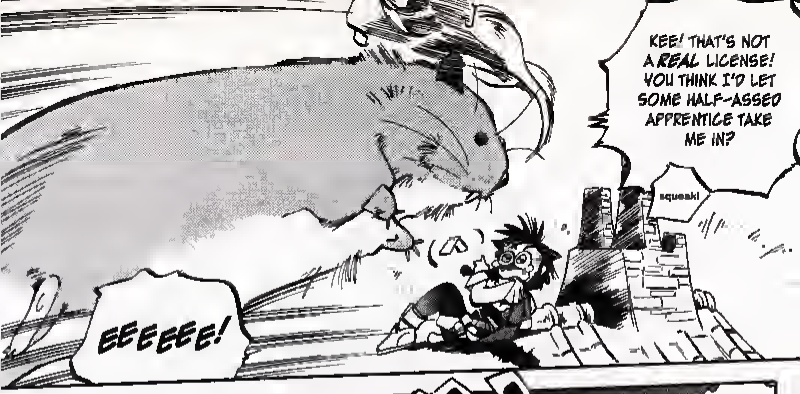

ボロ!!
WELL, I FEEL BETTER ALREADY.
WHILE SAKURA AND I WAITED AS DECOYS, BATANEN AND TOMY DELIVERED THE HEAD PRIEST TO TOKYO WITHOUT INCIDENT.
THANK YOU FOR LOOKING AFTER ME.
PLEASE GIVE MY BEST TO NATSUKI AND COMPANY
SURE.
NOW, IT IS TIME TO DO MY DUTY.
It's about time! Now let's get back to makin' some serious bread
I TOOK THE TRACKER OUT... AND THE BELL MAKES NO SOUND WITHOUT THE BALL INSIDE!

Report #12

Back in the Saddle Again


IT IS THE WINTER OF 22 H.C. (HOLY CENTURY). THE HUMAN POPULATION CONTINUES ITS STEADY DECLINE. IN CONTRAST, THE NUMBER OF SO-CALLED "MONSTERS" HAS INCREASED DRAMATICALLY, AND THEY ARE NOW THE MAJORITY OF THE WORLD'S POPULATION.
ARE YOU RESISTING ARREST?
Squeak!
NATSUKI, THEY'RE MAKING A BREAR FOR IT!
YOU, CHAPAPA! THERE IS A WARRANT FOR YOUR ARREST UNDER THE DANGEROUS OBJECTS CONTROL LAW. HOW YOU WANNA DO THIS
IN PEACE OR IN PIECES?
THIS IS THE STORY OF THOSE TRYING TO STEM THE FLOW OF CHAOS AND ESTABLISH A LAW-ABIDING SOCIETY WHERE MONSTERS AND HUMANS CAN COEXIST.
HALT!
Squeak?

*Civil Industry Permission Certificate Tokyo, Nerime Ward, Shakuji 98-13-2 Natsuki Sasahara


KEE! THAT'S NOT A REAL LICENSE! YOU THINK I'D LET SOME HALF-ASSED APPRENTICE TAKE ME IN?
squeak!
EEEEEE!

SIGH! LOOKS LIKE IT'S UP TO ME TO SAVE THE DAY AGAIN...

ゴキッ
NATSUKI!
かじ
かじ
かじ
かじ
OUCH!
OWWIE!
OWW!
OUCH!

NOBODY RESPECTS MINOR LEAGUERS.
I TOLD YOU WORKING AS BATANEN'S FLUNKIES WAS A BAD IDEA.
WHAT'S THE MATTER, NATSUKI?
しょぼ
SHE'S A BIT DOWN. SOME PERP WITH A PRICE ON HIS HEAD MUNCHED ON HERS A BIT.
SIGH...
NAH, I DON'T THINK SO.
SHOULD I BE ASHAMED OF BEING A TRAINEE?
YOU SHOULD HAVE LIVED IN TOKYO FOR MORE THAN ONE YEAR, OR HAVE MORE THAN THREE YEARS OF EXPERIENCE.
FIRST OF ALL, YOU HAVE TO BE OVER 16 YEARS OLD.
WHERE DO WE HAVE TO GO TO APPLY?
HEY, YOU WENT THROUGH THE LICENSING PROCESS YOURSELF.
SO YOU SHOULD REMEMBER BEING IN THE SAME BOAT.

WHAT?
OH, I ALMOST FORGOT. THE DEADLINE FOR THIS YEAR'S APPLICATIONS IS TOMORROW.
...AND SUBMIT APPLICATIONS TO THE LABOR MINISTRY, NATIONAL PUBLIC SAFETY COMMISSION AND THE GOVERNOR'S OFFICE. SINCE YOU ALREADY HAVE A TEMPORARY LICENSE, THAT WILL MAKE YOU A LITTLE MORE "OFFICIAL."
...THEN REGISTER YOUR COMPANY AT THE LEGAL BUREAU...
BUT YOU CAN GET A CERTIFICATE FROM CITY HALL, ATTACH A 300,000 YEN STAMP...
CRAP-CAKES! WELL, THAT LEAVES ME OUT.
JEEZUM CROW! IT'S GOTTEN WAY MORE COMPLICATED THAN WHEN I GOT MINE.
Hey, hold on...
みきかま
OH, AND DON'T FORGET TO APPLY WITH THE TRANSPORTATION BUREAU. THEN...
OH WELL.
OH.
NATSUKI, CALM DOWN.
THERE'S NO TIME!
TOMORROW'S THE DEADLINE?
SIGH!
IT'S PAST TEN P.M. THE CITY OFFICE CLOSED AT FIVE.
WHAT SHOULD I DO? WHAT SHOULD I DO?!
ドビドビ

I'LL COPY WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW ON THIS FLOPPY DISK. GOOD LUCK.
AND REMEMBER, DON'T TRY TO UNDERSTAND THE CONTENTS. JUST FILL IN YOUR NAME AND ADDRESS.
YOU HAVE ALL DAY TOMORROW. IF YOU GET UP EARLY AND GO HANDLE THE APPLICATIONS, YOU'LL BE ALL RIGHT.
ALL RIGHT! I'LL GET A LICENSE TOMORROW! ♡
YOU GO, GIRL! FOR US! ♡
DON'T START, YOU TWO ..
SAKURA, DON'T TALK TO HER LIKE SHE'S AN IDIOT.

beep
beep
beep
beep
beep
beep
Yaaaaawwn!
GOOD NIGHT.
thunk!
WHO IS IT? IT'S NOT EVEN FOUR A.M. YET!
beep
clomp clomp
ka-slam!
WHAT? YOU'RE STILL HERE?
SAKURA, LET'S GO TO THE CITY OFFICE!
KYAAAH!
Huh?
I SWALLOWED IT
gulp!
しゃこ
しゃこ
しゃこ

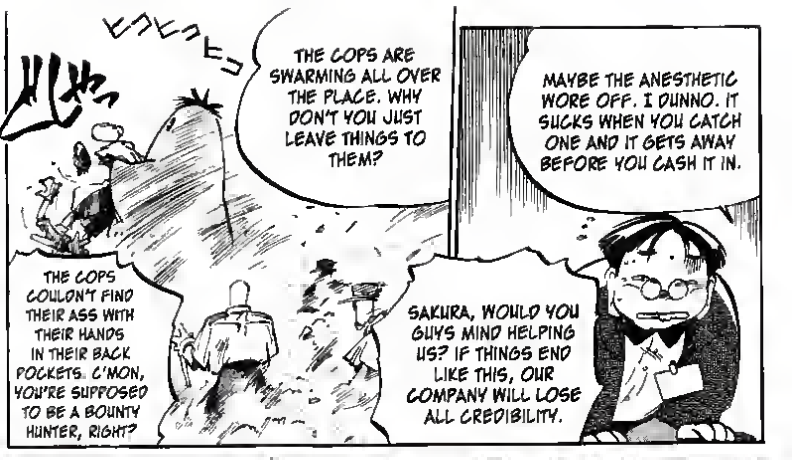
THIS IS TAKING TOO LONG...
WE'RE GONNA BE HERE FOR-EVER!
TAKE A NUMBER AND WAIT OVER THERE.
UH, I NEED A PROOF OF RESIDENCE CERTIFICATE, COPY OF MY FAMILY REGISTRY AND A PROOF OF MY SIGNATURE STAMP. FOUR COPIES OF EACH, PLEASE.
Nerima Ward Office
WHY DO I HAVE TO COME WITH YOU?
WHICH IS THE NEW PERSONAL SEAL YOU WANT TO REGISTER?
HERE IT IS. ♡
MS. NATSUKI SASAHARA!
YES?
3
IT'S ALMOST LUNCHTIME.
STUPID BUREAUCRACIES! WHY CAN'T THESE GOVERNMENT DRONES EVER WORK AT A NORMAL PACE?
Your hair is a mess Natsuki. You should at least brush it.
Huff!
Huff!
I'M SORRY, WE DON'T ACCEPT OVER-THE-COUNTER SEALS.

LET'S MEET AT THE PUBLIC SAFETY COMMISSION!
ALL RIGHT. THANKS!
IT'S A WASTE OF TIME TO DO THIS TOGETHER
I'M GOING TO THE LABOR MINISTRY. NATSUKI, YOU GO TO THE LEGAL BUREAU!
GOSH. IT'S PAST NOON. WE HAVE LESS THAN FIVE HOURS LEFT!
UM... EXCUSE ME. I THOUGHT THE LEGAL BUREAU WAS AROUND HERE.
YES. THIS IS IT.
ring
FUJIOKA'S PLACE.
ring ring
I'M COMING!
What?!

THE LEGAL BUREAU HAS BEEN DESTROYED!
IT'S GONE!
IT'S NOT HERE!
WHAT SHOULD I DO?
AAAiiiEEE!!!
PLEASE CALM DOWN. WHAT'S WRONG?
IS THIS NATSUKI?
I THINK THERE'S A TEMPORARY OFFICE IN NARITO, CHIBA PREFECTURE.
OKAY. I GOT IT.
WAAAAH!
THERE ISN'T ONE!
DON'T CRY. HOLD ON.
CAN YOU SEE THE SIGN THAT SAYS WHERE IT'S BEEN MOVED?
OH! I REMEMBER NOW. IT WAS DESTROYED IN A TERRORIST ATTACK LAST MONTH!
bz zz
bzz zz
bzz zz
OR SAITAMA'S TOKOROZAWA MIGHT BE CLOSER.
OH! SHE HUNG UP.

IS IT REALLY HERE?
成東
Naruto
SHE'S LATE. I WONDER WHAT SHE'S DOING.
THAT TRUCK IS FROM FUKUSUKE'S IT LOOKS LIKE THEY'RE DOING ALL RIGHT.
ONCE NATSUKI GETS OUR LICENSE, WE'LL BE MAKING MONEY, TOO.
.....

どて
オオオオー
YOU'RE FUKUSHIKE, YEAH? HOW'S IT GOING?
WE'RE GETTING BY.
I TRUST YOU CAN SAY THE SAME.
ピコピコ
THIS IS A DANGEROUS SITUATION CITIZENS PLEASE EVACUATE THE AREA IMMEDIATELY.
THE MONSTER WE CAUGHT GOT AWAY...
LOOK, I DON'T HAVE TIME FOR SMALL TALK.


THE COPS ARE SWARMING ALL OVER THE PLACE. WHY DON'T YOU JUST LEAVE THINGS TO THEM?
MAYBE THE ANESTHETIC WORE OFF. I DUNNO. IT SUCKS WHEN YOU CATCH ONE AND IT GETS AWAY BEFORE YOU CASH IT IN.
THE COPS COULDN'T FIND THEIR ASS WITH THEIR HANDS IN THEIR BACK POCKETS. C'MON, YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO BE A BOUNTY HUNTER, RIGHT?
SAKURA, WOULD YOU GUYS MIND HELPING US? IF THINGS END LIKE THIS, OUR COMPANY WILL LOSE ALL CREDIBILITY.

100,000? YOU GOTTA BE FRICKIN' KIDDING ME! AFTER THE WAY YOU TOOK ADVANTAGE OF US LAST TIME?
ALL RIGHT... I'LL PAY YOU 100,000 YEN.
I AIN'T WORKING FOR FREE.
UH...

HEY, SAKURA!!
820,000... THAT'LL BUY A LOT OF SILVER-TIPPED AMMO...
ONE MILLION.
ONE MILLION.
I-I COULDN'T POSSIBLY PAY YOU MORE THAN 500,000...
YOU EXPECT ME TO RISK THIS TIGHT LITTLE ASS, YOU GOTTA MAKE IT WORTH MY WHILE. MAKE IT A COOL MILLION AND WE'RE IN BUSINESS.
750,000
ALL RIGHT! 820,000! IT'S ALL I HAVE! PLEASE!

YEAH! C'MON, I'LL SPLIT YOU THE FEE I NEGOTIATED--- 100,000!
WOW! SURE!
NICE TIMING. THESE IDIOTS NEED A HAND CATCHING A BAD GUY.
THEY LOST THEIR BOUNTY?
SORRY I'M LATE.
ALL RIGHT. YOU'VE GOT A DEAL.
PLEASE, LET ME THROUGH!
NATSUKI!
I AM LIVE REPORTING IN FRONT OF THE PUBLIC SAFETY COMMISSION BUILDING.
AN ESCAPED MONSTER
YEAH, WE JUST BOUGHT ONE LAST WEEK
YOU GOT A PROJECTOR?
MAY I HEL YOU?
Sign: Shinjuku Coffee House
PLEASE GET BACK, PEOPLE.
OUCH!
NOT WITH YOUR FRIENDS TODAY, BATANEN?
OH!

THEY'RE BROADCASTING A CLOSE-UP LIKE THAT? WHAT IS THIS, THE ADULT CHANNEL?
IS THERE A WAY TO RECORD THIS?
Aaagh!!
ALL RIGHT, MISTER YOU PUT YOUR HANDS, TENTACLES, PINCERS, OR WHATEVER APPENDAGES YOU HAVE OVER YOUR HEAD.
RRRRRRRR
ぱたぱた

COME PEACEFULLY, AND YOU WON'T GET HURT..
KYAAAH!
GOOD POINT. GET A CLOSE-UP
WHO ARE THOSE TWO?
I HEARD THEY'RE BOUNTY HUNTERS. AND HOT ONES, TO BOOT!
THOSE DIRTY REPORTERS! I WISH I'D WORN CUTER PANTIES...
DIDN'T YOU HEAR ME?
I DON'T THINK HE'S LISTENING, NATSUKI! HE'S HURT...AND MAD!
badum!
badum!
I AM DEFINITELY BUYING A RECORDER THIS WEEKEND!
HE'S CHARGING! I'M GONNA HAVE TO DROP HIM!

OUCHIE!
I TOLD YOU TO BE CAREFUL.
KYAAA--OOF!
I'M ON IT!
CRAP-CAKES! THESE SILVER-TIPPED BULLETS AREN'T CUTTING IT.
THEN I'LL DROP HIS ASS WITH THE ARMOR-PIERCING AMMO!
NATSUKI! WHY DON'T YOU TRY TO STUN HIM WITH YOUR ELECTRIC SHOCK?

ドキ
ドキ

HIKO HIKO HIKO!
THAT TOOK TOO LONG! I'VE STILL GOT TO GET TO THE PUBLIC SAFETY COMMISSION!
TH-THANKS...
HEY, WE GOT HIM!
OH NO!
EXCUSE ME. IS THIS PAPER ACCEPTABLE?
WHAT?
THE PAPER I GOT FROM THE LEGAL BUREAU GOT RIPPED IN THE FIGHT!
Crinkle

THERE'S NO TIME TO GET DEPRESSED LET'S GO GET ANOTHER PAPER.
POO-FIE! I WAS AFRAID OF THAT!
がらくた
受付
AHEM... I DON'T THINK SO.

SONIC WHAT?
PLUG YOUR EARS!
ALL SET? I'M GOING TO SONIC SPEED.
WE HAVE NO CHOICE. I'LL FLY YOU THERE.
WE WON'T MAKE IT IN TIME! IT TAKES THREE HOURS TO GET TO NARUTO AND BACK

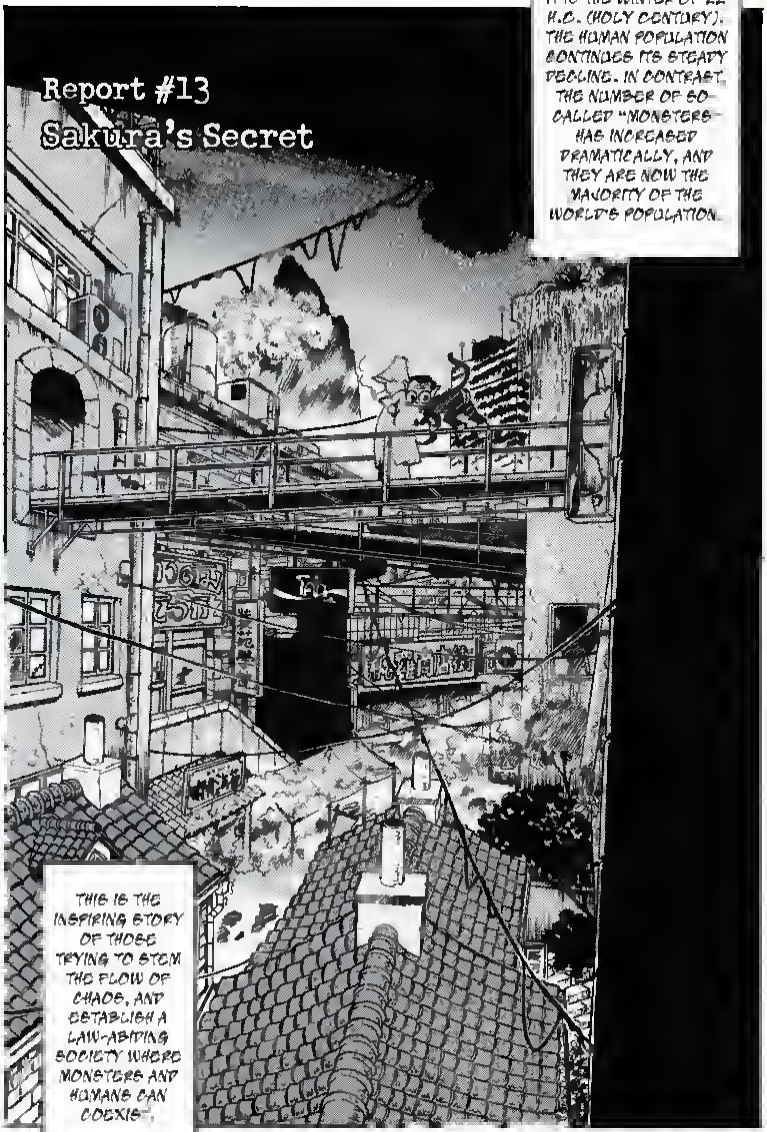
Oh, okay. You might want to catch your breath first
Sonic speed. It means going really fast!
Sputter! Gasp!
Huff! Huff!

ゆっくりしていってね！

TAKE IT EASY!

2009

I'M SORRY, BUT WE'VE CLOSED FOR THE DAY. PLEASE COME BACK TOMORROW.
WE OPEN AT EIGHT.
EXCUSE ME. COULD YOU HELP ME WITH THIS?
I KNOW YOU'RE AN EVIL DEVIL MONSTER, BUT YOU DON'T HAVE TO BE MEAN! WON'T SOMEONE HELP ME?!
SORRY ALMOST ALL GOVERNMENT WORKERS ARE EVIL DEMONS THESE DAYS
DON'T BE A JERK, STEVE. JUST TAKE THE DOCUMENTS.
WILL YOU PLEASE TAKE THEM?
SURE. I SAW THE FIGHT YOU HAD ON TV. WAY TO SAVE DOWNTOWN
THANKS. WE'LL FILE THIS AWAY FOR NEXT YEAR'S APPLICATION.
HA HA HA! YOUR TAX DOLLARS AT WORK!
YOU DEMON!
Batarien let's check the airwaves for new information
OOPSIE!
What color panties you wearin today sweetmeat?
OH, LOOK! IT'S THAT HUNTER GIRL FROM THE TV.
WE SHOULD HAVE BECOME A NATIONALLY FAMOUS BOUNTY-HUNTING TEAM... BUT THE ONLY THING THAT BECAME FAMOUS WAS MY PANTIES!


Report #13
Sakura's Secret
IT IS THE WINTER OF 22 H.C. (HOLY CENTURY). THE HUMAN POPULATION CONTINUES ITS STEADY DECLINE. IN CONTRAST, THE NUMBER OF SO-CALLED "MONSTERS" HAS INCREASED DRAMATICALLY, AND THEY ARE NOW THE MAJORITY OF THE WORLD'S POPULATION.
THIS IS THE INSPIRING STORY OF THOSE TRYING TO STEM THE FLOW OF CHAOS, AND ESTABLISH A LAW-ABIDING SOCIETY WHERE MONSTERS AND HUMANS CAN COEXIST.

THIS IS THE TALE OF A GROUP OF YOUNG BOUNTY HUNTERS, AND THEIR BRAVE BATTLES AGAINST THE CRIMINAL ELEMENT.
SHIT!!
!!
BANG, BABY!

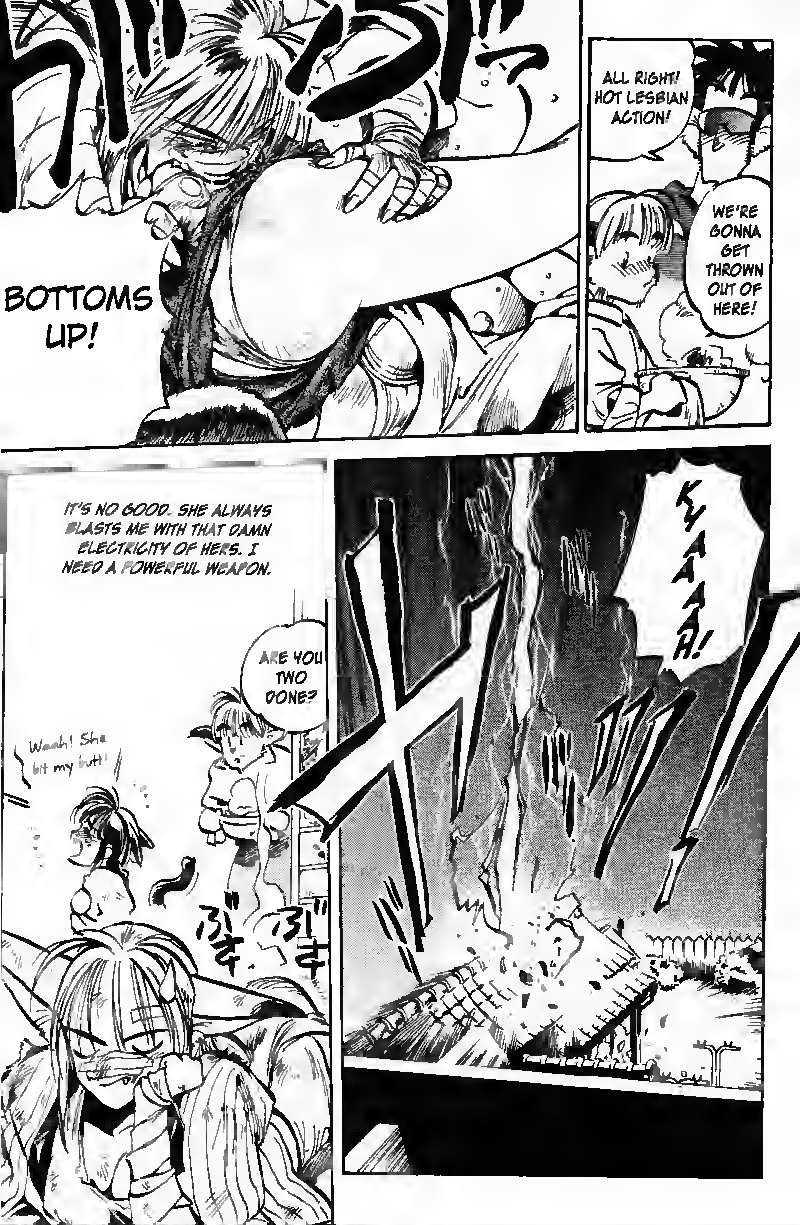
KEEP MOVING.
EYAAAAH!
?!
NOW'S MY CHANCE!

HARDY HAR HAR.
WELL...THIS IS SUPPOSED TO BE AN INSPIRING STORY...
WELL, HER MOUTH SURVIVED THE BLAST..
THANKS TO SAKURA'S DISTRACTION.
YOU DID IT, KID!
BUT IS SAKURA ALL RIGHT?
DO I LOOK LIKE I'M ALL RIGHT?
ARE YOU ALL RIGHT, SAKURA?

WHEN IT'S COLD LIKE THIS, IT MAKES ME WANNA SAVE UP MONEY AND GO TO A HOT SPRING.
ぽいぽ!!
はふはふ..
OH, THIS STEW IS HOT!
SEAFOOD STEW IN WINTER IS THE BEST!
グツグツ グツグツ
WE DECIDED TO HAVE A NUTRITIOUS MEAL TOGETHER, TO SEE THAT SAKURA EATS HEALTHY AND GETS WELL SOON.
Sorry we're late.
We've been waiting.
Did you get some snacks to go with the drinks?
THAT SOUNDS GREAT! BLUE SKY, WHITE SAND AND EMERALD SEA AS FAR AS THE EYE CAN SEE! I WANNA SUNBATHE NUDE ON A SECLUDED BEACH ON SOME DESERTED ISLAND!
I'D HAVE TO BUY SOME BIKINIS.
A VACATION'S A GREAT IDEA! WHY NOT GO ALL OUT AND TAKE A TRIP TO THE TROPICS?
WE'RE OUT OF SAKE, NATSUKI! CAN YOU WARM ANOTHER ONE?
Hiccup!
OKAY!
SUNBATHE... NUDE?
ごくん

HOOOOO, BABY! LOOKIN' GOOO!
HOW ABOUT SOME KAHLUA AND MILK?
shake
shake
HEY! THERE'S NONE LEFT.
Hic!
?
OH, DAMN!
WHA--??

NATSUKI IS MINE!
YAAAAH!
NOT AGAIN!
AAH!
AAH!
YOU SHAID "LOOKIN' GOOD," RIGHT?
Hiccup!
I ALMOSHT FORGOT...I'M SHUPPOSHED TO EAT HER!
EEK?
ARE YOU DRUNK, SAKURA?
I'M NOT DRUNK...
THISH IS IT... JUSHT EAT NATSUKI'S LIVER RAW AND HER MAGIC POWERSH WILL MAKE ME BECOME A NINE-TAIL FOX...


BOTTOMS UP!
ALL RIGHT! HOT LESBIAN ACTION!
WE'RE GONNA GET THROWN OUT OF HERE!
KYAAA!
IT'S NO GOOD. SHE ALWAYS BLASTS ME WITH THAT DAMN ELECTRICITY OF HERS. I NEED A POWERFUL WEAPON.
ARE YOU TWO DONE?
Waah! She bit my butt!

ACCORDING TO THE GUN SHOP SALESPERSON, SAKURA'S GUN IS MALFUNCTIONING. APPARENTLY THE MATERIAL ISN'T STRONG ENOUGH TO HANDLE ARMOR-TIPPED AMMO.
THIS GUN SEEMS PRETTY STURDY.
THAT'S HANDMADE ORIHARUCON.
YOU HAVE SUCH DISCERNING TASTES
なるほど!!
AH, THIS PIECE WAS CRAFTED FROM ONLY THE FINEST MATERIALS. NO MATTER THE AMMO, IT WILL NOT BREAK.
I LIKE IT. I'LL TAKE IT.
SAKURA LAID DOWN THREE MILLION YEN JUST LIKE THAT--THREE TIMES HER MONTHLY TAKE-HOME PAY--JUST FOR A NEW GUN.
OPEN
Gun Shop

I CAN'T WASTE EXPENSIVE AMMO LIKE THAT.
ANOTHER REVOLVER? I RECOMMEND AN AUTOMATIC.
DID SHE GET A GUN MADE OF ORIHARUCON?
SAKURA THE CHEAPSKATE
Ka-ching!
Ka-ching
WEIRD! SHE'S USUALLY NOT THIS EXTRAVAGANT!
WHERE DID SHE GET SO MUCH MONEY?
...I CAN SHOOT NATSUKI WITH ARMOR-TIPPED AMMO AND EAT HER LIVER RAW!
WITH THIS...
MAYBE SHE'S INVOLVED IN SOMETHING CRIMINAL ON THE SLY...
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
YOU'RE JUST SORE ABOUT HER BITING YOUR BUTT.
AND THEN I WILL BECOME A NINE-TAILED FOX!

OH NO! SOMEBODY STOLE MY PANTIES AGAIN!
HEY, SAKURA.
I'M GOING OUT FOR A WHILE.
WHAT?
I'LL BE OUT LATE. I WON'T NEED DINNER.

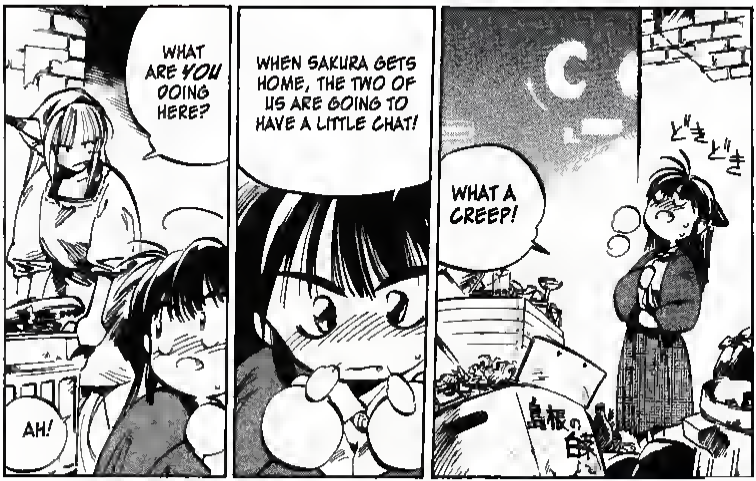
NOW I KNOW SOMETHING'S UP!
IS SHE GOING SHOPPING? I WONDER WHERE SHE'S OFF TO!
Kiwi
THE PENNY-PINCHING SAKURA DOESN'T NEED DINNER?
WHY WOULD SHE...
OMIGOSH! I CAN'T BELIEVE IT! SHE'S WORKING A RED-LIGHT JOB!
PUB G-
WHY WOULD SHE BE COMING TO SUCH A SEEDY PLACE?
Newspaper: High-income part-time job. Become a sea lion for two hours and get rich!
I WONDER IF IT'S A DATE?
BUT SHE DOESN'T LOOK DRESSED FOR THAT.

OH!
I DEFINITELY SHOULD NOT BE HERE.
How about some condoms, contempts or cigarettes?

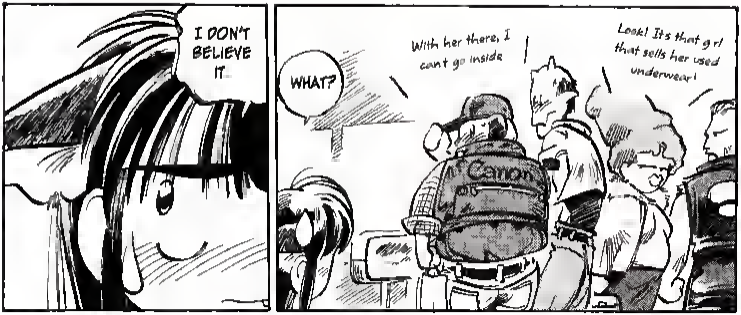
UH, I...
MAY I HELP YOU?
SAY... Hiccup! FINALLY, SOME "BARELY-LEGAL" ACTION!
HEH HEH! BREAST INSPECTOR! Hiccup! THESE REAL?
OH!
ナデ!

KYAAAAH!
COME IN
THEY ARE REAL...AND SPECTACULAR!
HEY! LET GO, YOU PERV!
FIRM LITTLE BACKSIDE, TOO. WHAT TIME YOU GET OFF, HONEY? 'CAUSE I THINK I JUST DIED!

CUT THE CHATTER! WHEN YOU'RE DONE WITH THAT, TAKE THE GARBAGE OUT
WHAT WAS THAT? THE CIRCUIT BREAKER JUST CRASHED, RIGHT?


WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?
AH!
WHEN SAKURA GETS HOME, THE TWO OF US ARE GOING TO HAVE A LITTLE CHAT!
WHAT A CREEP!

I DIDN'T MEAN TO... HEY, YOU LOOK GOOD IN AN APRON.
YOU MIGHT MAKE A GOOD HOUSEWIFE.
WHY DID YOU FOLLOW ME?
YOU'RE A SNEAKY ONE, AREN'T YOU?
I WAS WONDERING HOW SHE SAVED UP ENOUGH MONEY FOR GUNS AND AMMO. I EVEN SUSPECTED SHE MIGHT BE INVOLVED IN SOMETHING ILLEGAL...
—BUT SAKURA IS REALLY A HARD WORKER. I HAD HER ALL WRONG.
Yup, that's for sure.
YOU WON'T TELL BATANEN AND TOMY ABOUT THIS JOB, RIGHT?
You can't judge a book by its cover
I'LL BE BACK IN A MINUTE, SO JUST WAIT HERE.
ALL RIGHT.
I FORGOT! THERE'S ONE MORE PLACE I HAVE TO GO.
OH!
ANOTHER JOB? I'M EVEN MORE IMPRESSED.
I SHOULD MAKE IT UP TO HER.
HEY, SAKURA, WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE TO EAT? SWEET RICE WRAPPED IN FRIED TOFU SKIN? FOX UDON? FRIED OCTOPUS BALLS?
WHAT'S UP WITH YOU ALL OF THE SUDDEN?


I DON'T BELIEVE IT
WHAT?
With her there, I can't go inside
Look! It's that girl that sells her used underwear!
Canon

I KNOW, I KNOW
THE PANTIES YOU BRING ARE ALWAYS BIG SELLERS.
EXCEL-LENT!
I BROUGHT SOME NEW ONES TO SELL.
THIS TIME I BROUGHT A SEXY PICTURE OF HER IN PAJAMAS, SO GIVE ME A GOOD PRICE, YOU HEAR?

NATSUKI! I THOUGHT YOU WERE GOING TO WAIT OUTSIDE.
さっ
OOPS!
SAAKUHRA!!

YOU LIED TO ME!
I LET YOU LIVE WITH ME! I TRUSTED YOU!
WHAT ARE YOU HIDING?!
Now Natsuki calm down
I'LL NEVER FORGIVE YOU!
IT'S NOT WHAT YOU THINK! WAIT A MINUTE!
THESE ARE MY--
ARRGGHH!

ゆっくりしていってね！

TAKE IT EASY!

2009

I'M SORRY, SAKURA!
I COMPLETELY MISUNDER-STOOO...
HUH? SAKURA'S?
OH NO! IT'S TRUE.
THESE ARE SAKURA'S PANTIES!
IT LOOKS LIKE SHE BOUGHT IT...
I THOUGHT THE NINE TAIL HOLES WOULD BE A GIVEAWAY.
BUT SOMEDAY SOON...I WILL EAT HER LIVER RAW.

Report #14
Samurai Not So Deep

IN THE ROLLING CLOUDS HIGH IN THE MOUNTAINS, THUNDER ROARED AND LIGHTNING SPARKLED BRILLIANTLY.
IT WAS THE 10TH YEAR OF THE TENSHO PERIOD, ON THE MORNING OF...
...JUNE 1ST.
UNGHF!

SAKUNOSHIN IS BRINGING INFORMATION ABOUT THE TRAITOR AKECHI TO NOBUNAGA, WHO WILL BE PRESENT AT HONNOJI TEMPLE FOR A...
...TEA CEREMONY.
DAMN! WE'RE SURROUNDED BY AKECHI MITSUHIDE'S FORCES.
LORD SAKUNOSHIN?
THIS IS SAKUNOSHIN CHIKURA. LIKE MITSUHIDE, HE COMES FROM HUMBLE LOWER-CLASS ROOTS. HIS ABILITY AND HONESTY GAINED FAVOR WITH NOBUNAGA, AND HE BECAME HIS FOLLOWER.
AND WE'RE ONLY JUST SHY OF CROSSING THAT PEAK AND ARRIVING AT THE LORD'S LOCATION AT HONNOJI.

ARE YOU INSANE, KASUMI?
WE ARE WORKING FOR AKECHI MITSUHIDE.
I WILL HANDLE THIS...
...SO YOU, SAKUNOSHIN, MAY GO TO LORD NOBUNAGA'S!
SAKUNOSHIN HAS DECEIVED YOU. HE IS A SHAMELESS WOMANIZER.
I WOULD EVEN DIE FOR YOU.
...I LOVE YOU, SAKUNOSHIN...
I UNDERSTAND THAT, FATHER, BUT I...

KASUMI!
!

chink!
HE'S USING A SHIELD?!
THERE WAS NOTHING IN HIS FILE ABOUT THAT!

I WILL CATCH YOU TWO AND SELL YOU TO A PROSTITUTION RING. AFTER I SAMPLE THE MERCHANDISE MYSELF, OF COURSE!
KYAAH!
DAMMIT! I WASTED MY PRECIOUS ARMOR-TIPPED AMMO.
YOU UNDERESTIMATE ME.
YOU HURT SAKURA!
OH! SAKURA!
Nffump

EAT THIS!
HE'S BLOCKING MY ELECTRIC SHOCK!
SHE'S TOUGH. HER ELECTRIC SHOCK IS STRONG
AT THIS RATE, MY PRECIOUS SHIELD MIGHT EVEN BE DESTROYED! I MUST THINK OF SOMETHING!
ひよい

ぷち
OH!
ぱた
ぱた
THAT'S A PRETTY LOW TRICK.
AH, AH...
うにょうにょ
OH!
OH!
OH!
ROOOWRRR!
IDIOT CATGIRL.
HMPH.
ゴゴゴ
ゴゴゴ
ラニャー
ラニャー
ガシッ

?!
KASUMI!

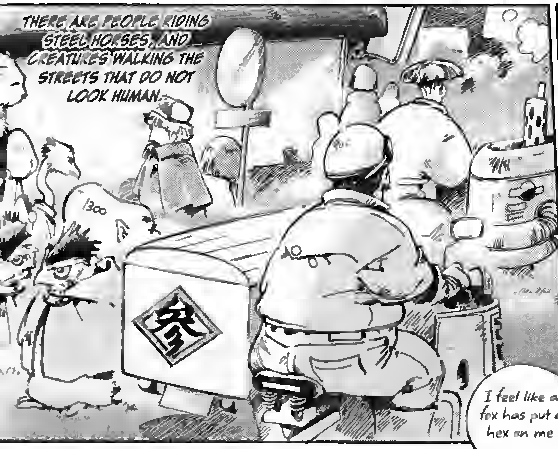
A NEW HUNTER, EH?
UGH!
KASUMI, ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?
YOUR INJURIES ARE NOT SERIOUS

WHAT'S HAPPENING HERE?
WERE ALL THE OTHER SOLDIERS BLOWN AWAY BY THE EXPLOSION?
WE ARE...
WHERE IS THIS?
WE SHOULD SECURE A PLACE TO TREAT YOUR INJURY, IN ANY CASE.
ARE THEY AFTER US?
SAKURA!
HEY, NATSUKI!

THE TWO OF YOU REALLY DID ALL THIS DAMAGE YOURSELVES?
OMIGAWD! MY KITTY INSTINCTS TOOK OVER! HOW EMBARRASSING!
WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU PLAYING WITH, KID?
I DIDN'T DO IT.
I DON'T SEE ANY SIGN OF SAKURA.
WHERE DID SHE GO?
SHE LEFT BEHIND THE GUN SHE JUST BOUGHT.

IS THIS LAKE BIWAKO? NO...IT SMELLS OF SALT. HAVE I ARRIVED AT THE OCEAN?
.....

It should be around 9 p.m., but the stars are in strange positions.
THIS IS STRANGE. FROM THE POSITION OF THE STARS, HONNOJI SHOULD BE JUST AHEAD...


THERE ARE PEOPLE RIDING STEEL HORSES, AND... CREATURES WALKING THE STREETS THAT DO NOT LOOK HUMAN.
I feel like a fox has put a hex on me

WHAT IS THIS? AND WHAT ARE THOSE BRIGHT LIGHTS IN THAT TOWN?

OWNWW ...
.....
I'VE GOT A HEADACHE...
ばっ
ARE YOU AWAKE?
WHO ARE YOU?
ガラッ
I DON'T HAVE MY GUN!

HUH? I'M...
ぷにっ
WH-WHY THE HELL AM I TOTALLY NAKED?!
DON'T LOOK AT ME! DON'T COME THIS WAY!
GO AWAY! SHOO! SHOO!
WHY ARE YOU SAYING THAT? YOU HAVE NOTHING TO BE EMBARRASSED ABOUT.
SHOW ME YOUR WOUNDS.
NOTHING TO BE EMBARRASSED ABOUT? WHEN I WAS UNCONSCIOUS, YOU DIDN'T...?

HE COULD'VE...
YOU DIDN'T...
MAYBE SHE HIT HER HEAD OR IS JUST CONFUSED.
WHAT IS SHE BABBLING ABOUT?
ON NO, NO, NO! I'VE BEEN VIOLATED!
HOW DARE YOU TOY WITH ME, YOU BEAST?!!
BY SOME CREEPY GUY IN A CAVE!
DON'T COME ANY CLOSER, YOU PERVERT! DON'T TOUCH ME!
WE HAVE NO TIME FOR DELIRIUM. SHOW ME YOUR WOUNDS.
IT'S ME-- SAKUNOSHIN CHIKURA
DON'T YOU REMEMBER? WE HAVE TO BE AT HONNOJI TEMPLE BY 6 A.M. TOMORROW MORNING.

No way!
COME BACK!
WHERE ARE YOU GOING?
KASUMI... SHE'S CONFUSED BECAUSE SHE KILLED HER FATHER.
SHE HAD NO CHOICE. OUR LORD'S LIFE IS OF PARAMOUNT IMPORT-ANCE.
THEY ARE CLOSE.

CAN YOU TELL ME--IS THIS THE DIRECTION OF HONNOJI TEMPLE?
ARE YOU FROM AROUND HERE?
MY NAME IS SAKUNOSHI CHIKURA.
WHO IS THIS?
HE'S GOT SAKURA'S SCENT ON HIM!

WH-WHAT?
THAT'S THE PLACE WHERE ODA NOBUNAGA WAS BETRAYED BY HIS SUBJECT, AKECHI MITSUHIDE, AND COMMITTED SUICIDE OR WAS BEHEADED OR SOMETHING.
OH, I'VE HEARD ABOUT THAT.
WHAT'S THAT?
HONNOJI TEMPLE?

IT'S A HISTORICAL FACT.
IS THAT TRUE?!
I...I WAS TOO LATE!
HEY, YOU...
DO YOU KNOW SAKURA?
HE'S LEAVING?
WHAT WAS THAT ABOUT? SHOULD WE ARREST HIM FOR BEING CREEPY?

OH, SAKURA! YOU'RE BACK.
WHY IS IT SO DARK IN HERE?
WE CAN'T EAT ALL THIS.
WHAT'S THE MATTER? WHY'D YOU BUY SO MUCH FOOD?
LEAVE ME ALONE. I-I JUST WANT TO BE ALONE!
SOMETHING WAS TERRIBLY WRONG WITH SAKURA...
strum
strum

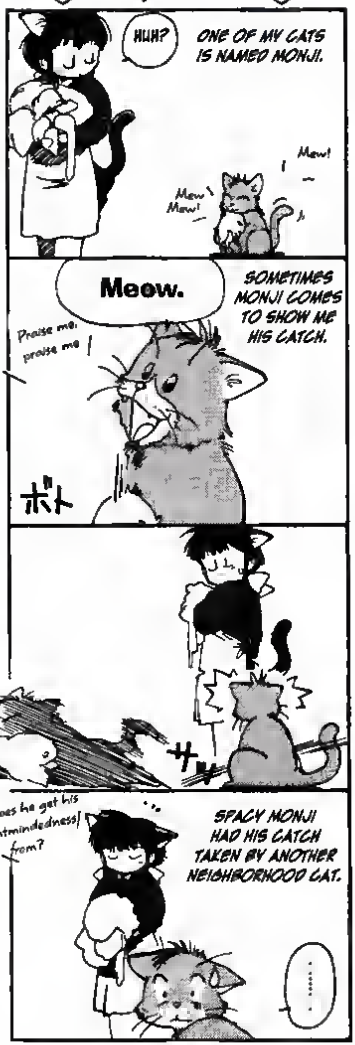
End of Volume 2

BONUS REPORT

My Cat #2

ONE DAY MONJI BROUGHT A HUGE WIENER SAUSAGE FROM SOMEWHERE.
HEY, WHERE DID YOU GET THAT?
I want to eat stuff like this.
PEOPLE WILL THINK I ONLY FEED YOU CAT FOOD.
DON'T TAKE FOOD FROM STRANGERS.
Although it is true
HEY, YOU!
HE THINKS I'LL TAKE HIS FOOD, SO HE RUNS AWAY.

My Cat #1



A Shallow Thought

...SO THAT IS WHAT HAPPENED...
chomp
chomp
It was really embarrassing
What's wrong with you Batanen?!
?
HMMM. I THOUGHT IT SOUNDED LIKE A GOOD IDEA. NOW I'M GLAD I DIDN'T TRY IT.

Hyper Police

Volume 2

The End

My Cat #3

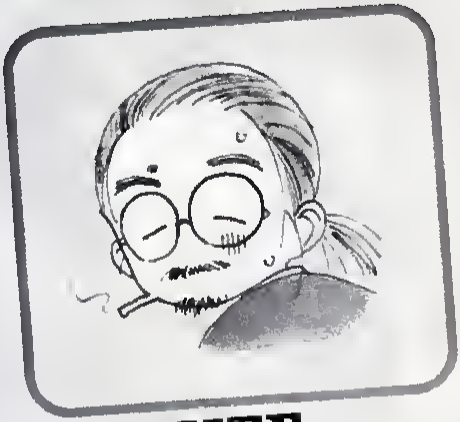
MONJI IS SOCIABLE, AND HE'S POPULAR WITH STRANGERS.
Oh, that's a good boy
Meow!
THERE'S MONJI...
ONE DAY HE BROUGHT HIS GIRLFRIEND HOME.
HEY, IS THAT YOUR GIRL-FRIEND?
The food's nothing special, but help yourself
HE TRIED TO JUMP HER FROM BEHIND WHILE SHE WAS EATING, BUT...
ROWR!
chomp
chomp
SHE SCRATCHED HIM AND RAN AWAY.
YOU POOR THING..

ゆっくりしていってね！

TAKE IT EASY!

2009

WANTED



MEE

FOR THE PERPETRATION AND SALE OF TRULY TWISTED MANGA FEATURING FURRY FEMME FATALES.

A PRODUCT OF YANAGAWA IN THE FUKUOKA PREFECTURE, MEE WAS BORN ON JUNE 24 IN 1963. PAST ACTIVITY HAS INCLUDED WRITING AND ILLUSTRATING KOTETSU NO DAIBOKEN (KOTETETSU'S GREAT ADVENTURES) FOR WANI MAGAZINE COMICS. CURRENTLY BELIEVED TO BE WORKING ON THE HYPER POLICE MANGA (THOUGH THIS INFORMATION MAY BE OUT OF DATE).

SUSPECT HAS ISSUED THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT TO POLICE COMPANY: "I WOULD LIKE TO HOOK SAKURA UP WITH A BOYFRIEND AND NATSUKI WITH A FIANCE. BUT IT LOOKS LIKE THIS MAY TAKE A WHILE. NEVERTHELESS, I THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT."

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